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Town Papers.

DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

RELATING TO

TOWNS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE;

WITH AN APPENDIX

EMBRACING THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS OF 1778–1779; AND OF 1781–1783; AND THE STATE CONSTITUTION OF 1784.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

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VOLUME IX.

COMPILED AND EDITED BY

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Corresponding Secretary of the New Hampshire Historical Society.

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NOTICE.

JOINT RESOLUTION, passed by the Legislature of New Hampshire.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court convened, That His Excellency the Governor be hereby authorized and empowered, with the advice and consent of the Council, to employ some suitable person, and fix his compensation, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to collect, arrange, transcribe, and superintend the publication of such portions of the early State and Provincial Records, and other State Papers of New Hampshire, as the Governor may deem proper; and that eight hundred copies of each volume of the same be printed by the State Printer and distributed as follows: namely, one copy to each City and Town in the State, one copy to such of the Public Libraries of this State as the Governor may designate, two hundred copies to the New Hampshire Historical Society, and the remainder placed in the custody of the State Librarian, who is hereby authorized to exchange the same for similar publications issued by other States.

Approved July 6, 1866.

EDITOR'S PREFACE.

The special value of this volume consists in the information which it contains and communicates, relating to Towns in New Hampshire. It will be found indispensable in every Town History. We are little aware, at this period, of the sacrifices, trials, dangers and absolute sufferings which many of the early settlers endured in planting Towns in the interior of the State; where, literally, they often suffered "from savage beasts and more savage men." The border Towns were, for years, open to the incursions of Indians from Canada. Their earnest petitions to the Governor or to the General Assembly for help, clearly reveal to us their dangers and distresses. Besides this source of trial, others arose from disputes about boundary lines, the location of meeting-houses, the settling of ministers, irregularities in town meetings, &c. The volume is of great value, as giving the NAMES of many, and in some cases, all the male inhabitants of the Towns, from which petitions were sent. These will enable descendants to trace their connexion with the early settlers.

The volume, also, has an important value, in that, in the APPENDIX, it gives in full, all known facts relating to the Constitutional Conventions in 1778–1783, which resulted in the establishment of the first Constitution after the Revolution, 1784. The Editor is not aware that the facts herein have ever before been published, in connexion. He asks attention to the Note subjoined to the first and second articles of the Bill of Rights, on pages 896–898.

In examining these "Town Papers," readers will often do well to refer to the Provincial and State Papers in preceding volumes, of corresponding date, from which, in some cases, additional information will be obtained.

162935

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ERRATA.

Page 3, Elijah "King" should be Thing.
Pages 63–75, the head-lines should be Bow, not "Boscawen."
Page 156, Aug. 29, 1772, should be 1722.
Page 319, head-line, "Gosport," should be Grantham.
Page 510, Hugh "Milson," should be Wilson.
Page 543, Thomas "Willet," should be Willey.
Page 551, Thomas "Rickere," should be Vickere.
Page 693, Note, "General," should be "Geneal." and Hist. Reg.
Pages 722–729, head-lines should be Rochester, not "Rindge."
Page xli, Note, Hon Charles Doe, late Judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, not "Superior."

* In the reference to Hon. Charles Doe, in this Note, it should read, late Judge of the *Supreme* Judicial Court, not "Superior." ED.

THE WHEELWRIGHT DEED.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

On pages 56–60, Vol. I. Prov. Papers, the "WHEELWRIGHT DEED," as it is called, is printed in full. In a Note on that Deed, p. 56, the Editor says, "That in the course of the following records particular facts will be noted, that may enable readers to form an opinion respecting the validity of the Deed." In this Volume, the Editor deems it proper to state, in brief, the conclusion which he has himself reached on that matter;—reserving his argument, in full, for publication in some other form.

The conclusion which the Editor has reached from all the facts which have come before him, is, that the said Deed is a FORGERY.

This Deed bears date, May 17, 1629, and purports to be a conveyance by four Indian Sagamores, of a tract of land equal to about forty miles square—between the Piscataqua and Merrimack rivers—to John Wheelwright, "late of England, of the Massachusetts Bay, and a minister of the Gospel," with four associate grantees, "all of the Massachusetts Bay."

The following are among the proofs that said deed is a forgery:

I. Aside from this pretended Deed, we have no evidence that the Rev. John Wheelwright was ever seen or heard of in this country till his arrival, May 26, 1636; not one of the associate grantees was here before that time; and one of them, William Wentworth, was a boy only fifteen years of age then, at Alford, in England.

II. The settlement of "the Massachusetts Bay" proper was not begun till more than a year after May, 1629, i. e., not till June, 1630.

III. The deed purports to be signed and sealed in the presence of two English witnesses, one of whom was certainly in England on the 11th of May,—six days previous—and the other was on shipboard on the Atlantic Ocean, and did not arrive in this country till June 29, 1629.

IV. Of the seven witnesses to the delivery of the deed, it is certain that only one, Edward Hilton, was in this country at that time; and if he signed the deed, he signed away all his right and title to the plantation on which he lived.

V. The above seven witnesses are said to be governors or stewards of plantations, called Laconia, Sawco and Squamscott or Hilton's Point; but not one of the said plantations was granted till six or nine months after May, 1629.

VI. The deed purports to have been made by the Indians "with a desire to have the English inhabit amongst them." But

Passaconaway, the chief Sagamore, explicitly denies this, and declares "he did all he could to prevent their settlement, and fought against them."

VII. The date of the deed, May 17, 1629, proves to be the Sabbath, and therefore false to the principles and character of Rev. John Wheelwright.

VIII. On April 3, 1638, John Wheelwright and his associates made an actual *bona fide* purchase, of Indians, at Squamscott—now Exeter—paid for the same and began a settlement; —which is inconsistent with the pretence that he bought in 1629, paying twice for the same land.

IX. The deed of 1629 occupies three and a half octavo pages, or one hundred and forty-two lines, while all the real Indian deeds of that early period are no more than sixteen or twenty-four lines; and therefore it betrays itself as belonging to a later period.

X. One condition or proviso in the deed is that the settlement, when begun, should be under "the government, laws and order of the Massachusetts Bay." But John Wheelwright came to Exeter, in 1638, as an exile, banished out of the territory and jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Bay, and immediately set up an independent government.

XI. The pretended deed of 1629 antedates the grant of New Hampshire to Captain John Mason, which is dated Nov. 7, 1629; and the evident intent and object of the deed was to head off a claim made by Thomas Allen, of title and possession, founded on said grant to Mason; the trial of which was before the Superior Court of New Hampshire, August 12, 1707. Then, for the first time, was the pretended deed brought to light—seventy-eight years after the date of it; and even then, only a "copy" of the pretended original was brought into court. This "copy," now on the files of the Superior Court, at Exeter, is the only evidence that Dr. Belknap quotes for the validity of the deed.* [See Prov. Papers of N. H., Vol. II., pp. 522–528.]

* The first discovery and exposure of this forgery was made by the late Hon. James Savage, of Boston, President of the Massachusetts Historical Society, about 1820; his views were re-affirmed, with additional evidence, by the late John Farmer, Esq., Corresponding Secretary of the New Hampshire Historical Society, in 1831. The opinion above expressed by the Editor is the result of an original investigation of the facts that relate to the case. It is but just, however, to add, that the late Samuel G. Drake, Esq., of Boston, maintained an opposite opinion, as does also the Hon. Charles H. Bell, of Exeter [See Winthrop's History of New England, 1853, Vol. I., App. H, pp. 486–514; Farm. Belknap's History of New Hampshire, Vol. I., pp. 6–13; Drake's History of Boston, 1856, pp. 56–60, notes.] ED.

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NEW HAMPSHIRE

EARLY TOWN PAPERS.

VOLUME IX.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

The "TOWN PAPERS" contained in this volume are copied from separate MSS. volumes, six in number, now in the office of the Secretary of State. They were arranged by authority of the Legislature, by the late John Farmer, Esq. The contents of each volume are copied as arranged, with a very few exceptions, (in which an error was discovered,) and are distinguished as labeled on the MSS. volumes by the towns which they severally include; e. g. Vol. I, "Acworth to Chichester;" Vol. II, "Concord to Exeter," &c. In the GENERAL CONTENTS also, the volumes are kept distinct. ED.

VOLUME I.

ACWORTH TO CHICHESTER.

ACWORTH.

[This town was incorporated 19 September, 1766. An extension of its Charter was granted 30 May, 1772.]

Memorial of Sampson Stoddard and Jon^a Blanchard.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Capt General Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hamp^r—the Honble his Majestys Council for said Province—

The Memorial of Sampson Stoddard & Jonathan Blanchard for themselves & others part of the Grantees in the Town of Acworth in said Province—

Humbly shews that your Memorialists have Done Something Very Considerable Towards Bringing forward the Settlement thereof, have now a Considerable Number of Familys well Settled there, have a Good Set of Mills there have Cut

Cleared & in a Great Measure well finish'd a Road thro' Said Town Mark[d] & Lay'd out by a Committee appointed by an Act of the General Court;

That it has not been in your Memorialists power Strictly to fulfil the Several Conditions in Said Grant Stipulated That the Time Limited in his Majestys Grant of Said Town for Doing the Duty of Settlem[t] Expird the Last Month

Your Memorialists therefore pray that they may be Indulg'd a Little While to Compleat the Settlem[t] afores[d] & your Memorialists as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c

SAMPSON STODDARD
JON[a] BLANCHARD.

Petition for the Extension of the Charter of Acworth, 1772.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Cap[t] Gene[l] Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of Hamp[r] the Hon[ble] his Majestys Council for Said Province

The Petition of Jonathan Blanchard of Merrymac in Said Province humbly shews—

That your Petitioner is Considerably Interested in the Town of Acworth in Said Province under his Majestys Grant thereof, hath with Co[l] Sampson Stoddard been making Large Improvements there by Persons under them much to the emolument of Said Town That the Time Limited for Doing the Duty Condition[d] in the Grant aforesaid Expir'd the 19th Day of September 1771, that a Number of the Original Grantees have Neglected to Perform the Several Conditions in Said Grant Express[d] much to the prejudice of the Settlem[t] of Said Town, Namely David MacGregore, James MacGregore, Thomas Craige, James MacGregore Jun[r] Alexand[r] Clark, James Miltimmer, Jonathan Gilmore, Daniel Macfee, Robert Adams, Ephraim Adams, Samuel French, Oliver Farwell, Oliver Farwell Jun[r], Thomas Davis, the Rev[d] Ebenezer Bridge, Edward Goldstone Lutwyche, Samuel Wentworth Esq[r], Peter Levius Esq[r], Col[r] Jonathan Greeley, William Symes, Maj[r] John Wentworth, Wiseman Clagget Esq[r], Samuel Cumings & Robert Fletcher:

Wherefore your Petitioner humbly Prays that your Excellency & Honors woud Take the Premises into Consideration Grant your Petitioner & his as'ciate Col[r] Sampson Stoddard a further Time to Compleat the Duty Enjoyn'd upon their Interest which is Nearly Done & otherwise Dispose of the Delinquent Prop[r] Interest & Shares to such of his Majestys Good Subjects as Will Effectually Settle & Cultivate the Same & your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

JON. BLANCHARD.

Gov. Wentworth's Warrant to inspect the Settlement in Acworth, May, 1772.

Province of New Hampshire } By his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governor & Command^{r} in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province aforesaid & vice Admiral of the same.

To Simeon Olcott Esqr Capt. Benjamin Church Esqr Mr Elijah King and Mr Thomas Sparhawk, Greeting.—

Pursuant to an order of Council of 30th April ult^{o} you, or any three of you, are hereby authorized and Impowered to Survey and Inspect the township of Acworth in this Province: and return into the Secretary's office, upon Oath, the exact State of Settlement & Cultivation upon each Lot or Share therein, together with the number of Families & Settlers actually resident with the Roads and Buildings in said Township which Business you are desired to enter upon immediately, so as to make your Return, as aforesaid, by or before the 25th day of May Ins^{t} for which this is your full and sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand at Portsmouth the First day of May in the Twelfth year of His Majesty's Reign Annoque Domini 1772.

J'WENTWORTH.

By his Excellency's Command
with advice of Council.
Theodore Atkinson Sec^{ry}

Pursuant to the within warrant we ye subscribers have surveyed and Inspected the Township of Acworth with the Settlements Cultivation on each Lot or Share of Land therein, and also the Families, Settlers Buildings & Roads in ye same, & find the State thereof as represented in the Schedule hereto annexed, and make return of ye same accordingly

SIMEON OLCOTT
ELIJAH THING.

May ye 16th 1772.

LIST OF FAMILIES AND SETTLERS IN ACWORTH.

FAMILIES AND SETTLERS.	Lots No.	Range No.	ORIGINAL GRANTEES.	Improved Lands.	Partly Cleared.	Houses, &c.
Ephraim Keyes	10	6	John Hardy	30		1
William Keyes	13	2	James Blanchard	30	5	1
Doan Carlton	10	5	Reuben Gould	12	20	1
Samuel Harper	12	4	William Pierce	12	2	1
Same	11	4	David Burge	15	3	
Capt. Henry Silsby	12	6	Ebenezer Gould	25	3	
Same	11	5	Samuel Thing	8	6	1
Jonas Keyes	11	2	Stephen Powars	4	6	
Samuel Smith	9	5	Moses Easterbrooks	40	4	1
David Cross	15	3	Augustus Blanchard	10	2	1
Sam. Smith, junr	14	2	Saml Barron	8	7	
Elijah Parker	14	3	Reuben Killecut	3	3	1
John Rogers	7	2	Benjamin French	3	2	
Same	7	3	Ye same	25		1
Same	6	3	Oliver Farwell		1½	
Edward Keyes	9	4	Nathl Garfield	6	7	
Joseph Chatterton						
James Pease	13	1	William Thompson	20	2	1 & Barn
Robt. Davidson	7	4	William Robie	4	1	1
Solomon Bigelow	12	3	Same	3	1	1
William Farwell junr	9	3	John Parker	1	7	
Joel Bigelow	13	3	William Stacy		1	
Thos. Putnam	5	5	Thos Blanchard		4	1
Same	5	6	Sampn Stoddard, junr	goo	d gr	iss & s.mill
Behuman Stebbins	14	7	John Ryan		20	good Pd
Jonathan Silsby	13	7	Samuel Thing	4	4	
William Farwell	12	7	Oliver Peirce		1	
Fradric Keyes	12	1	Jonathan Blanchard	8		
Ephraim Keyes	11	6	David Brown	4		
Same	9	6	Sampn Stoddard Esqr		10	
Joseph Webb	7	5	James Rogers	1	1	

The within is an exact State of ye settlement & Cultivation on each Lot & Share of Land in ye Township of Acworth in the Province of New Hampshire, with ye families & Setlers therein and about four miles of the main Road leading from Charlestown to Boscawen, at ye westerly End made passable for Carriage and ye Remainder of ye same Road Cut about one Rod wide and so far leveled that Carriages might pass with Dificulty Also one other Road from ye said Main Road to the Mills, about two Miles in length well made & fit for Carriages, which with some few private Roads made passable only for man & horse is all the Improvement & Cultivation we could find in said Township: which is humbly submitted.

Pr SIMEON OLCOTT
ELIJAH THING.

Cheshire ss May 18th 1772 Then Mr. Elijah Thing personally appearing made Oath to ye Truth of ye above Report by him Signed before me

SIMEON OLCOTT Justs Pais

ALSTEAD.

A True List of the Inhabitants now Settled in the Town of Alstead, with their familys, and those that have begun to settel, and single men, that have worked on their Land Viz:

Twenty five Families now Inhabiting in said Town, also ten Single men, at work on their Land that are now resident also nine men more that have been and made Considerable Improvement on their Land some of which have ten, twelve, and some near twenty acres, under Improvement, and are all coming into Town with their families in the Spring as soon as the Season will admit of it, also Sundry Persons to the number of Eight that have made Considerable Improvement on their Land some have ten acres others near twenty and one about Thirty acres under Improvement which are moved off and Expect to have others on in their room directly. All which is a True account of what is done Toward the Settelment of said Town of Alstead. Taken by us the Subscribers this 23 day of December 1771.

SAMUEL CHANDLER
JASON WAIT
OLIVER SHEPARD
} Selectmen of Alstead.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c: and to the Honorable His Majestys Council in said Province &c

The Humble Petition of the Proprietors and Inhabitants of the Township of Alsted in said Province Humbly Sheweth That whereas the Charter of said Alsted is out and thereby some of the rights or Shares are become forfited: But we do rely on Your Excellency and Honors Clemency and Mercy when you shall see the account of what Persons is already settled and settling in said Town, and as by the Providence of God our Crops has been for these four years past much shortened by frost Dearth and worms and the last year by Blast which has caused Provision to be very scarce, and as that many of those People that Settle new Towns have but littel money to help themselves with and as the Scarcity of Provision has been such had People moved in much faster than what they have they must have Suffered for want of Provision as it could not have been Procured with money had they had it. Therefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that Your Excellency and Honors would take it into Your wise Consideration and if Consistant with your Wisdom to Lengthen out the time to those that have been Delinquent in doing their Duty would take it as a great favour, If Your Excellency and Honors should

think it not Proper to Grant any further time to those Delinquent to do their Duty in we Your Petitioners the Inhabitants pray that it may be Granted to us for our Children that have endured the many Fatigues and Hardships in bringing forward the Settelment of Said Town, and Your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray

Jeneuary the 13th 1772.

Jonathan Shepard	Edward Waldo
Shubel Waldo	Daniel Waldo
Samuel Chandler	Gideon Delano
Jason Wait	Elias Brown
Oliver Shepard	Barnabas Delano
Andrew Beckwith	Elijah Cone
Joseph Brown	Philip Wordner
John Thomson	

Those Names above Is What of the Inhabitants that has signed & those below Is men that Live out of town that have Land in sd District:

B. Bellows	Jonth Chase
Joshua Hide	James Richardson
Abishai Delano	Moses Brown

AMHERST

[Amherst was granted by the Government of Massachusetts, 26 April, 1733, and was called Narraganset No. 3, which name was afterwards exchanged for Souhegan West, which it retained until the charter was granted, 18 January, 1760, by Gov. B. Wentworth. It was not under the government of New Hampshire until 1741, when the establishment of the line separated it from Massachusetts.—Ed.]

PAPERS RELATING TO AMHERST (INCLUDING MONSON).

Request of the Inhabitants of Souhegan West for a suitable Guard to defend them from the French & Indian Enemy, 1744.

Att a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Settlement or Plantation, called Souhegan West in the Province of New Hampshire at the house of Danl Wilkins ye 16th of June 1744.

Unanimously agreed that Danl Wilkins of this place in the name and behalf of the Settlers here Represent to the Governor and Council of New Hampshire our destressed Circumstance on account of our being Exposed to the French and Indian Enemy our Low Condition & Inability to subsist here unless a Suitable guard may be had to defend us when about our work; and that he make suitable application that these things may Immediately be obtained.

witness to the vote

Solomon Hutchinson(1)
Jonathan Tarbell
John Vene.

(1) Mr. Hutchinson was the first Town Clerk when Amherst was incorporated. He died in Maine, at the age of 90 years.—Ed.

To his Exelency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt. General and Governor in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England the Honorable the Council and House of Representatives in General Court convened.

The Memorial or Petition of Danl Wilkins in the name and behalf of the Inhabitants of the Township or Plantation called Souhegan West No. 3 in the said Province—

Humbly sheweth the said Town has been settled by his Majesties subjects about nine years and a Gospel Minister ordained almost three years that the Settlers had an Eye at enlarging his Majesties Dominions by going into the Wilderness as well as at their own Interest, that some thousand of pounds has been spent in clearing and cultevating the Land there and vast sums in building Houses Barns & fences beside much time and expence in building fortifications by his Excelency the Governers order.

That the Breaking up the Settlement will not only ruin the Memorialists but greatly disserve his Majesties Interest by encouraging his Enemies to Encroach on his deserted Settlements and be also hurtful to the Province by Contracting its borders and drawing the war nearer the Capital:

That it was by a long and importunate Intercession of this Province, (and not of the Memorialists Seeking) that they are cast under the immediate care of this Government which they conceive give them so much the better Right to its protection:

That as war is already declared against France and a Rupture with the Indians hourly expected your Memorialists unless they have speedy help will soon be obliged to forsake their Town how diservisable soever it may be to the Crown dishonorable to the Government hurtfull to the Province & ruinous to themselves:

Wherefore,

Your Memorialists most humbly supplicate your Exelency the honorable Council and House of Representatives to take the premises into your wise and mature Consideration and to grant them such seasonable relief as may enable them to subsist in the war and secure against the Ravages and Devastation of a blood thirsty and merciless Enemy and your Memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

Danl Wilkins.

Dated at Portsmouth
June ye 22^{d} 1744.

Petition for protection against the Indians, 1747.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Gov. &c The Hon. his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Convened May 13th 1747.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the New Plantation called Souhegan West Humbly *Sheweth* That there is Settled and now remains in this plantation thirty five familys in which is about Fifty eight men upwards of sixteen years old. That when we began our Setlement, we apprehended no Danger of Our ever being a frontior, there being at that time so many above us begun and obligated to fullfill the Conditions of the Massachusetts Grants, which occasioned us to setle scattering, only Regarding the Advantages of Good and Compact farms. That the difficulty of War happening so early on our Settlements, and the Defenceless Condition they was in, has oblidged them all viz: Petersborough Salem-Canada New Boston & Hillsborough (so called) Intirely to draw off as well as the Forts on Connecticut River left naked. Whereby we are now left as much exposed as any of the Frontiers on Merrimack River

That the First year of the present war we was Favoured with a Scout from This Province (which we Thankfully acknowledge) and Salem-Canada with an other which was Equally Serviceable to us Since that time, both Salem-Canada and this Place has had a guard from the Massachusetts till the Winter passed together with our Inhabitants keeping a constant Scout (Tho much Impoverished thereby) That this encouragement has occasioned our venturing here till now That as we are now left without either Scout or Guard—Apprehend we are in Imminent Danger, Yet Loath to yield Ourselves Such an easy Prey to Our Enemies or Suffer Ruin by leaving our Improvements wast, One Whereof we have no Reason to Think, but must unavoidably be our lot, unless this Government Compassionately Grants us Protection.

Wherefore Your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that your Excellency & Hon[rs] would so far Comiserate our Present Difficult Circumstances as to Grant us so many Soldiers as your Excellency & Hon[rs] may Judge of Necessity for Our Defence and your Peti[rs] as in Duty bound Shall Pray &c.

Daniel Wilkins
John Shepard
his
Joseph X Wilkins
mark
Benj Cheever
John Davis
James Cofren
Samuel Walton
William Peabody
William Howard
Jacob Wellman
his
David X Hartsorn
mark
Andrew Bixbe
Andrew Seeton
William Bradford
Ebenezer Ellinwood
Thomas Clark

Solomon Hutchinson	John Seetown
Daniel Wilkins Junr	Ebenezer Lyon
Benjamin Cheever Junr	Caleb Stiles.
Israel Towne	

In Council May 13th 1747 read & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble House.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Petition from Monson.(1)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Govr &c The Honb his majestys Council & House of Rep^{ves} in Gen^{ll} Assembly convened May 13th 1747.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the town of Monson, Hereunto Subscribers Humbly *Shews* That the Said town is Lately begun to Setle & but about Fifteen Familys there.

That they are one of the Frontier Towns west of Merrimack River, & the most northerly One, already incorporated, Lying Between Hollis & the New Plantation Called Souhegan West.

That could we be assisted by Souldiers Such Competent number as might Enable us to Defend our Selves Shall Chearfully Endeavour to Stay there by Which we Shall Serve as a Barrier in part to Holles Merrimack and Dunstable.

That last year we was Favoured by Souldiers From the Massachusetts, that Prevented Our Drawing off.

That Should the War be pursued by the Enemy as vigorously as Last year, (unless we are Favoured by some assistance from Y^{e} Government) We Humbly apprehend 'twould be too great Presumption to venture our Selves & Familys there

That it will be very Ruinous to your Petitioners To leave their Settlements & the Frontier Widned, & for a Necessary Defence will Require a Greater number of Souldiers than to assist us there

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that your Excellency & Hono^{rs} would be pleased to Take the Premises into your Consideration & Grant us a Guard for two Garrisons & a small Scout on Our Front Or Otherwise Releive us in the Premises as in your Great Wisdom Shall Seem meet & y^{r} Pet^{rs} as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray.

James Wheeler	Abraham Leman
William Neivens	Thomas Neivens
William Colburn	Benjamin Hopkins
Robert Colburn	Isaac Farwell
Jonathan Taylor	Stephen Haslton
Samuel Leman	John Burns
Samuel Leman Junr	Thomas Mordow

In Council May 13th 1747 read & ordred to be Sent Doun to the Honble House.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

(1)The town of Monson lay adjacent to Amherst, and was afterwards incorporated with it in part.—Ed.

Prov^e of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 15th May 1747.

Voted That in answer to ye two annexed Petitions Viz: that of Souhegan West & that of Monson, His Excellency be desired to give orders for inlisting or impressing fifteen good executive men to Scout & guard under proper oficer or oficers s^d Souhegan West & Monson 'til ye twentyeth of octo^r next if need be & that s^d men be shifted once a month.

D. Peirce Clk.

Eo^dm Die In Coun^ll read and Concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Eo^dm Die Assented to

B Wentworth.

Petition of Monson, for annexation, &c.

Province of New Hampshire } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Govr &c & To the Hon^b^le His Majestys Council the day of 1754.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the town of Monson Humbly *Shews*

That there is a tract of Land of about the Contents of seven Thousand acres Lying on the North of Monson and adjoyning Included by the following Bounds, viz 1, to begin at Monson Northeast Corner and to Run North by the Town of Merrymac Two miles and the next Station to begin at the North west Corner of Monson & to Extend north two miles and from thence a Strait line to the end of the aforementioned Two mile, and to Bound Southerly on Monson afores^d. On Which Sundry Familys are Settled & would be of accomodation & Convenience to Monson to have them annexed and Incorporated with Monson and would with that addition make it but about five miles and an half in Breadth one place with the other that Sundry of the Inhabitants of the s^d Tract hath together with this Petitioned your Excellency & Honors to be annexed and Incorporated with us. (And as we apprehend would be of Great Convenience to them, & help to us.)

Wherefore we most Humbly Pray that your Excellency and Hon^rs would be pleased to annex and Incorporate the s^d Tract with the Inhabitants Thereon to the town of Monson & your Pet^rs as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray

Benjamin Hopkins
Robert Colburn } Selectmen.
Benjamin Farley

Elisha Towne
William Neuens
Benjamin Kenrick
Secur Farwell
Thomas Neuens
James Wheler
Thomas Powers
Thomas Woolley

William Colborn Jun
Ebenezer Ball
William Colborn
John Burns
Josiah Crosby
Nathan Hutchinson
Benjamin Hopkins Junr.

few more that has not sin'd

Petition of Monson to be exempt from taxes.

Province of New Hampshire } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Govr &c. the Honle his Majestys Councill & House of Represves Convened In Genll Assembly

Humbly Shews The Petn of the Inhabitants of Monson That Whereas they Have Recd a late Order to render into the Secretarys Office an Invoice of their poles & estates in order for apportioning the taxes Which we have done, and Woud Further beg leave to Remonstrate Our Infancy & Inability to bear any part of the publick Charge at present.

That there is but thirty six poles in the Whole, Severall of them transiently hired for a short space to Labour or otherways there without any Estate : but twenty one Houses Cheifly Small Cottages only for a present Shelter the Charge of Building yet to Come on.

That they are all plain men Dwelling in these tents, Husbandry their Employment their Improvements very small, their Lands yet to Subdue. The Progress much Retarded by their Necessity to work out of town the prime of the year or at Other Business to procure provision Tho the town is part of Old Dunstable it has always till now bin a frontier and Remained a totall Wilderness till within a few years the Owners under no Injunction of Settlement the Land very antiontly Granted to Gents in farms, & part of the Divisions of Dunstable Comon who still hold the Greatest part and Continue unimproved by Which means the few setlers are scattered all abt the town much Labour has & must be spent in Opening and making Roads & Bridges Causes &c that are of Present Necessity, a burthen of it self too Heavy for the Strength of the small weak nomber that is there, in the late war at the expence of Garisoning Scouting & Defending themselves Besides many Other charges they have & must go thro so therefore apprehend themselves utterly unable to Bear any part of the publick taxes as yet, but hope their Small Begining in time may become usefull if they may be nurssd & favoured now In their Infancy

Wherefore your Petrs Humbly pray that they may be Considered in this their Infant & Chargable State & that they may not be taxed, till they are of ability to go thro their own necessary charge and when that shall be they will Chearfully Contribute according to their Power & shall ever pray &c

In behalf of ye Inhabitants

Benjin Hopkins } Selectmen
Robert Colburn } of Monson.

Provce N Hampr April 25 1753.

The within Petition read & ordered to be Sent Down to the Honble House of representatives.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Petition for annexation.

Province of } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr
New Hamp } Governour &c the Honorable his Majestys Council

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of a tract of Land north of and adjoining to Monson Lying with no Incorporation of any town or District Humbly Shews—

That the Town of Monson in this Province is situated in Length East & West near eight miles & in Breth but about four miles & is Bounded on the Northerly Side by Souhegan River Both Sides of Which River is in the General Fruitfull & Profitable Land for Corn and Grass

That if the Limits of the Town of Monson afores[d] Were Inlarged on the North so as to add & Include the Following tract viz. to begin at the Northeast Corner of Monson on Sowhegan River & extend North by the line of Merrymac Two Miles, & to begin the next Station at the Northwest corner of Monson afors[d] & to Run thence North two miles and strait line from thence to the two mil's end first menshioned and to Bound to the old Bounds of Monson Which will be an addition of about seven thousand acres and will Make the Said town of Monson In the Genereal about five miles & an half In Bredth.

That the said River is Small and many Bridges are New and must Continue to be kept in Repair so that the Said River is of no Ill convenience to the uniting the Incorporation as afors[d] & will be for the Accomodation of Monson; Severall of us has for many years ben Settled there & at Heavy Expence made Our Improvements

That we have not had the benefit of any Incorporation in any Town, nor see any Present Prospect unless wee are anexed to Monson

That Monson then will be upwards of seven Miles the North Line and Lands to the North of them not Incorporated, so that it Can be no Predjiduce to any Incorporation of any number of people for the Future the Land Genereal alike and Chiefly Good.

Wherefore your Petition[rs] most Humbly Pray That your Excellency & Hon[rs] woud take ye premises into Consideration and be pleased to annex & Incorporate the tract afore[sd] with the Inhabitants to Monson as one Corporate Town & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

John Shepard
Andrew Bradford
his
Achelaus ⋊ Wilkins
mark
John Eversden
John Hutchinson
Edward Beming (?) junr
William Peabody
Israel Towne
Thomas Williams
Richard Gould
John Edmonds
Edward Beming?

Petition of Amherst for an extension of its Charter 1761.

To His Exelency Bening Wentworth Esq[r] Governor in chief in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire and to the Honorable the Counsell.

The Memorial of us the Subscribers the Select Men of the Town of Amherst in the Province aforesaid. Humbly sheweth that we with the Lowest Submission Sollicitously pray that your Exelency and Honours would lengthen out the life of the Charter of our Town and we doubt not but your Exelency and Honours in your Great wisdom & Clemency will do it during the Kings pleasure and so your Memorialists as in Duty bound will ever pray.

REUBEN MUSSEY, THO[s] WAKEFIELD, WILLIAM PEABODY } Selectmen in behalf of the Town.

Amherst Dec[r] y[e] 15th 1761.

N. B. We the Subscribers Select men of the Town of Amherst Nominate and appoint Col. John Goss Esqr to represent to his Exelency the Governor and the Honorable Counsil our Memorial above specified to prolong our Town Charter.

Province of New Hamp } To the Gentlemen of the House of Representatives for said Province—

There was a vote in the House of Representatives January 28th 1761 That the Selectmen of the Oldest adjoining Town to any Town Parish or District where no Select men were should take Inventory of such Town &c and be paid by the Province Pursuant thereto We took Inventory of Lyndeborough and sent the same to the Sec[ry] as Directed by the aforesaid vote—The taking of which Inventory took us Two Days of hard Service (there being Considerable of Snow on the Ground at the time when we were obliged to do it) And there is Justly Due to Each of us New Ten[r] one Pound Ten Shillings per day To[t] £9:0:0 which we doubt not but you will Immediately Grant & allow.

Decem[r] 30th 1762.

WILLIAM PEABODY, ROBERT READ, JN[o] SHEPARD junr } Selectmen of Amherst.

Province of New Hamps } In the house of Representatives Jan'y 20th 1763. This Ac'ct being Read

Voted that there be allowed nine pound new Tenor, and paid to Selectmen of Amherst or their order Out of money in the Treasury for Contingances.

A Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concur'd
T Atkinson junr Secry

Consented to B WENTWORTH.

Memorandum of some proposals for an Accommodation Between the Selectmen of Monson & Amherst Viz. the Town of Amherst to take or have Annexed the following extent or part of Monson Namely begining at the Northeast Corner of Monson & Running Southerly on the East Line of said Monson Two miles then Running a Line paralell with the North Line of Amherst to the west line of Monson Then northerly on the westerly line of said Monson to the northwest corner thereof Provided the Town of Holles will take or have annexed the residue of said Monson.

April ye 20th 1763. We the subscribers consent to the above proposal

Benj^a^ Kenrick, Daniel Kenrick, Josiah Crosby } Selectmen of Monson

Holles April 28th 1763

Samuel Cumings, Francis Worcester, Stephen Webster } Selectmen of Holles

Robert Reed, Samuel Stenard, Thos Wakefield, Daniel Campbell, Jno Shepard jun^r^ } Selectmen of Amherst

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Letter of Rev. Daniel Wilkins of Amherst relating to a Shire town in the proposed division of the Province into Counties.

1 Oct. 1767.

To the Honble George Jaffery Esqr in Portsmouth
Hon^d^ & Dea^r^ Sr

After due salutation, I beg leave to inform your Hon^r^ that the proposal of the General Court that Merrimack be the Shire Town of the County on the West side of Merrimac River has raised a general uneasiness throughout the whole County evin many thinking men in Merrimac itself (as I have been credibly informed) are well satisfied that if the Proposal be established it will be greatly to the Town Damage in general, as they are small in Number, consisting of seventy odd Families no more and them exceeding much scattered and many of the number on New Places and no ways accommodated to entertain a Court especially with Hay & Pastoring, neither do they ever expect to be well accommodated with the Primeses as great Part of their Land is poor and clothed with shrubs the uneasiness of the People arises from the said Proposals not being for Amherst rather than Merrimack Not only as Amherst has been talked of for a Shire Town evin from Its Infancy thereby fixing the minds of the People upon it, but for its situation Nearer the Hart of the County so that many Towns can come from Home in the Morning and return Home in the

Evining that cant possibly do the like if the Court be at Merrimac, and thereby save a great deal of Charge to poor People and now S^r I beg leave to give a Discription of Amherst in a few Words: It is Situate about Eight Miles from Mr Lutwytche's Ferry on Merrimac River the contents of which is about six miles Square containing about one Hundred and sixty Famelies and accommodated according to men of the best Judgment to settle an Hundred Families at least, more than is already settled, and near an Hundred of them good Country Farms Well accommodated with fields and Pastures and chiefly all good Husbands the Middle of the Town pleasantly situated, a good coach Road to it from the Eastward and Southern Parts of the Province and all Roads centering there The People in general knowing the situation and accommodations of Amherst to entertain the Court suppose that the General Courts proposal for Merrimack sprung from a mis-Representation.

The occasion of these lines to your Hon^r was the cries of the People and to beg leave to subscribe your humble servt.

DANIEL WILKINS.

Amherst Oct ye 1st 1767.

P: S: S^r I must beg leave to tell your Hon^r that Mr. Willard a son of Coll Willard of Winchester and one Mr. Hall was at my House the Last Evening as agent for Keen and other towns towards the great River to desire that the Shire Town might be Amherst and likewise that there is a general uneasiness of its being at Merrimack and also Walepole as that every town save two would be greatly Discommoded if the Court was had at Walepole and not at Keen and also beg the favour of its being established at Keen as Keen will much best commode the People in General or at least that his Exelency with your Hon^rs would grant them Liberty to bring Down the minds of the People.

D. : W

Vote of Monson for a Division, &c.

Province of
New Hampshire.

At a Legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Monson in said Province held on monday the ninth day of april 1770

Voted that Nathan Hutchinson and Willm Nevins be a Committee to petition the Governor and Counsil of said Province for the following Division of the Town of Monson viz. Begining att the northeast Corner of Monson then extending South by the Town of merrimac two miles then dew West to the West line of said monson then North to Souhegan River then down Said River to the Bounds first mentioned to be an-

nexed to Amherst and the Remainder of said Town to Hollis.

BENJ[a] KENRICK Town Clark

Copy Attest Benj[a] Kenrick Town Clark

Petition for a Division and Annexation.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Cap[t] General and Comander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and To the Honorable his Majestys Council of said Province

The Subscribers being a Committee duly appointed by the Inhabitants of the Town of Monson in said Province to Petition your Excellency and Honors to divide said Town of Monson as hereinafterwards Expressed viz: Begining att the North East Corner of Monson then Extending South by the Town of Merrimac two miles then dew West to the West line of said Monson then North to Souhegan River then down said River to the bounds first mentioned to be annexed to Amherst and *the Remainder* of said Town to Hollis Humbly beg leave to suggest that the Lands in and about the Center of said Monson is so very poor Baron Brooken and uneaven as cannot admit of many Settlers so that those Families that are in Town are almost all planted in the Extreem parts of it We therefore conceive that if a Division were made as above mentioned the Interest and good of the people in it would be much promoted thereby Especially as we have no prospect of ever Building a Meeting House in the Center or else where any ways to accomodate us by which difficulties we think the Gosple will not be settled among us while in the present Situation we therefore pray that the above Division may be made and we as in Duty bound will pray

NATHAN HUTCHINSON

WILLIAM NEVENS.

Petition to be disannexed from Amherst.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General Governor and Commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, And the Honorable his Majestys Councill.

The Petition of the Subscribers, being Inhabitants of the Southwardly part of Amherst in said Province most Humbly sheweth.

That the town of Amherst is about nine miles in length (by reason that about half the Town of Monson was of late annexed to it) and is capable of being Divided into two Towns or Parishes, without Prejudice to or Spoiling the same; That many of the Subscribers live in that part of Amherst, which

was lately Monson, & our being annexed to said Amherst was contrary to our desire & Interest; that we are so remote from the Center of Amherst, that it is (& ever will be) with great Expence inconvenience & difficulty to us and our Families, to attend publick worship, by reason of the distance. That many of our Estates are not so valuable by reason of our being annexed to Amherst, for before that, our Situation was nigh the Centre of Monson, & on that account purchased our Land, at a dear rate, & Monson being Annihilated, our Situation (many of them) is now more inconvenient than before, unless we can obtain your Excellency's, & Honors Interposition.

Wherefore we humbly Pray, that your Excellency and Honors would set us off from said Amherst, and Invest us with Town Priviledges, by the following Bounds & lines, viz, beginning at the Southwest Corner of what was formerly Amherst, thence Northwardly by the west line of Amherst one mile and an half, Thence East untill it comes to the East line of the Town of Amherst. Thence Southwardly by said East line of Amherst untill it comes to the North line of the Town of Holles, Thence Westwardly by the North line of the Town of Holles, untill it comes to the North west corner thereof. Thence Northwardly, by the West line of said Amherst untill it comes to the Bound first mentioned, or Grant us any other Relief, that your Excellency & Honors, in your Wisdom & Goodness shall Judge most convenient, & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Amherst Jan'y 26th 1771.

Benjamin Hopkins	James Hopkins
William Wallace	Stephen Williams
Benjamin Hopkins junr	Gardner Gowen
Joseph Gould	William Jones Jr
John Burns junr	Nathan Tuttle
Ebenezer Hopkins	Benjamin Jones
George Burns	Joseph Farnum
Richard Gould	John Burns
Caleb Jons	Jonathan Towne
Thomas Towne	Amos Whittemore
Abner Hutchinson	David Duncklee
Robert Parker	Josiah Burroughs Jun
William Taylor	Isaac How jun
Jonathan Button	Jonathan Grimes
Isaac Powers	Bartholomew Towne

Petition of Amherst against the division of the town.

Filed Feb 4th 1771

1771 To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governor &c. of the Province of New Hampshire—And to the Honorable His Majesty's Council of said Province

The Subscribers Inhabitants of Amherst in said Province.

Humbly Shew that for more than twenty years last past a Number of persons living on those Lands lately known by the Name of Monson, but more lately Joined to said Amherst not having a Minister settled among them, nor accommodations sufficient for that purpose (as they said) very constantly attended the worship of God with us in said Amherst not Doing anything with us towards our Meeting House nor towards the Support of our minister except some Small private Donations made to our minister. However they Repeatedly Requested our Town to Consent to Receive them. Promising to meet at any place that the majr part of the People should fix to Build a House on, whereupon our Town after Repeated Sollicitashons to Receive them gave their Consent—And your Exellency & Honors some time in July last saw fit to Aggregate about one half of said Monson To said Amherst, soon after our Town Saw it necessary to Build a Meeting House and voted to Do it (our Present Meeting House being Small and insufficient for the old Town & said new Addition) the most of the People of the New Addition were present some voted in the Affermative some in the Negative, but they began to think that the Charter Subjected them to the same Duties with us of the old Town, that they must Defrey some part of the Charge in Building and so forth and not only so but must Do something towards supporting our minister, these Reflections affected some of them very Sensibly; they had not been acquainted with anything of the kind, they were Ready to Construe it as a Degree of Persecution & the like, And to Remedy this evil they are about Petitioning to have our Town as it now lyes Divided into two Parishes which we think cannot be Done without a manifest Injury to more than three Quarters of the Town, a very considerable Quantity of Land in our Town is barron and Poor and will not admit of two Parishes; besides it lyes in Such a Situation by reason of a River & Hills that the whole of the People may more conveniently meet at one Place, the place Pitched upon than at any two Places in the Town (of which the Gentlemen that Exhibit this will inform,) we would only add that if the Town is made into two Parishes it will tend very much to the Ruin of our minisr Therefore pray that if such their Petition should be prefered the prayer thereof may not be granted And yr Petitioners as in Duty bound will Pray.

Benja Taylor	Daniel Wilkins ye 3d
John Davis	Jacob Hildreth
John Smith	Isaac Weston
Willm Walton	David Hildreth
Jonathan Lamson	Nathan Kendal
Ephraim Hildreth	James Clark
Jacob Curtice	John Secombe
Daniel Campbel	Hezh Lovejoy
Benja Shepard	Amos Flint

John Burns
John Wilkins
Jn° Shepard jun^r
Israel Towne
Enos Upton
Enos Bradford
Saml Stuart
Eze^l Holt
Je^h Cumings
Benj^a Ellinwood
Reuben D Mussey
Benjamin Clark
Stephen Peabody
Thomas Avarel
Thomas Avarel Junr
Jedediah Ellinwood
John Hartshorn
Jacob Standly
Isaac How
Eben^r Holt Junr
Reuben Mussey
Francis Lovejoy
Nathan Fuller
Amos Green
John Washer
Stephen Washer
Bray Wilsen
Amos Truel
David Truel
John Shepard
Hezekiah Duncklee
Joseph Duncklee
Robert Read
Moses Nichols
Jonathan Wilkins
Joseph Lovejoy
Jn° Averil
Timothy Mackintire
James Woodbury
Peter Woodbury
Joshua Abbott
Acha^d Towne
Wm Bradford
James Seetowne
Hugh Ross
Joseph Small
John Michell
Sam Wilkins
Sam Lamson
Asa Farnum
Moses Towne
Eben^r Ellinwood J^r
Rolandson Ellinwood
Wm Small
Josiah Kidder
Ebenezer Weston
Saml Dodge
Kendal Boutwell
David Williams
John Steward
James Gage
Samuel Lamson Junr.
John m'Clenche?
Benj^a Wilkins
Nathan Phelps
Francis Eliot
Thos. Carlton
James Hartshorn
George Wiley
Ebenezer Holt
Reuben Holt
Willm Steward
Willm Melendy
Thos Wakefield
Joseph Bouttell
Benj^a Davis
Thos Clark
Jonathan Small
Andrew Bixebe
Samuel McKeen
Nahum Baldwing
Andrew Davis
Elisha Felton
Joseph Ellinwood
James Cochren
Joseph Bouttel
Reuben Bouttel
Thomas Bouttel
Amos Bouttel
Jonathan Lund
Simson Steward
Saml Stearns
Timothy Smith
Wm Odell
John Dunckle
Joseph Prince
Moses Walton
John Seetown
Josiah (?) Petingill
Benj^a Kenrick
Eben^r Ellinwood 3d
Eben^r Ellinwood
Bart^h Dodge
Thomson Maxwell
Timothy Nichols
Peter Goss
David Hartshorn
William Hogg
John Hartshorn

127 Signers

Vote of Amherst Relative to Monson April 10 1766.

At a Legal Meeting of the Town of Amherst in the Province of New Hampshire Held on the Tenth day of April A. D. 1766,

Voted that the following part of the Town of Monson, with the People thereon, may be annexed or joined to this Town, and enjoy all Priviledges and imunities in comon with the same viz Begining at the Northeast Corner of said Monson from thence South by the Town of Merrymack two Miles from thence due West to the West Line of said Monson, then North to Souhegan River so called, then Down said River to the bounds first mentioned. Upon the following Condition and not otherwise, that is to say they the People of said Monson to be at the Expence of Geting the Thing Done

JOHN SHEPARD jun. Town Clerk.

Copy Attest John Shepard jun Town Clerk

Petition of Jon. Shepard junr in behalf of Amherst Jan 26, 1771.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Capt. Gen[l] Governor &c of the Province of New Hampshire To the Honourable his Majestys Council of said Province.

The Selectmen of Amherst in the same Province, Beg leave to inform your Excellency and Hon[rs] that a Number of those persons that Inhabit those Lands formerly Called Monson but lately joined to said Amherst have lately signified their intention of Prefering a Petition to your Excellency & Honors, in which they should pray to have said Amherst Laid into two parrishes And some of them are so Sanguine about it as to suppose the thing may be Done at first asking without Notifying the Town of it, if so it must be submitted to, but the Petitioners are Humbly of Opinion that such a proceedure must be very Detrimental to by far the greater part, even more than two thirds of the People, and being bound to think that your Excellency & Hon[rs] cannot be prevailed with to do any thing Tending to hurt the Civil and Religious Polity of any Incorporation Therefore in behalf of said Town Pray that if such their petition should be prefered as aforesaid that previous to granting the Prayer thereof The people of said Amherst may be Notified and heard thereon And your Petitioners will Pray By Desire of said Selectmen.

Dated 26th January 1771.

JOHN SHEPARD Jun Town Clerk.

Petition for a Road from Charlestown to Amherst 1773.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Governor and Commander in chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the same

To the Hon[ble] His Majesties Council, and to the Hon[ble] His Majesties House of Representatives In General Assembly Convened

The Petition of Jotham Blanchard In Behalf of Himself Reuben Kidder Esq[r] and Others Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners are at great Inconvenience as to roads from Charlestown (in said Province) to this Metropolis, that Your Petitioners Humbly Conceive a Road may be made from Charlestown Through the Towns of Acworth, Lemster Campden Monadnock number seven to that Tract of Land known by the name of Masons Proprietors Reservation, or Society Land, that the same road may be Continued to Petersborough, & Lyndsborough to Amherst where there is sufficient roads to any Part of this or the neighboring Governments, and your Petitioners Pray Your Excellency and Honours to Cause an act of said Province to be made and Passed, for the said road to be surveyed and made Passable Through said Town in the most direct manner Possible and that Your Excellency and Honours would appoint a Committee of Two or more Men Capable of surveying and making said Road at the Cost and Charge of the Proprietors that owns and Holds the Land in the said Towns, and that, shoud those Proprietors Refuse to pay said Cost and Charge that the Lands within said Towns may be subject to be sold in such Proportion as may pay the same or in some other way which may appear to Your Excellency and Honours to be most Conducive to the facilitating the Settlement of those New Towns which are in their Infancy as to their settlements, and Pray that Your Excellency and Honours To Take the forgoing Petition into Your Wise Consideration and Grant such Relief as Your Excellency and Honours in Your Great Wisdom shall think Best and Your Petitioners shall ever Pray.

JOTHAM BLANCHARD.

May 13th 1773.

Petition of the County of Hillsborough 1774.

Province of New Hampshire } Hillsborough ss

To the Hon[ble] The Justices of His Majestys Court of General Sessions of the Peace Holden at Amherst within and for said County on the 17th Day of August A D 1773 by adjournment from the first Thursday next following the first Tuesday of July 1773—

The Petition of us the Subscribers Freeholders of the Respective Towns of Amherst, Hollis, New Ipswich, Nottingham

West, Dunstable, Litchfield, Merrymac, Bedford, Derryfield, Goffes Town, Dunbarton, Hopkinton, Weare, Mason, New Boston, Lyndsborough, Wilton, Temple, Peterborough, Boscawen, Salisbury and Hennikar all in said County which said Petitioners are Agents Legally Chosen and Constituted for the said Towns, Whereof they are Freeholders and Inhabitants

Humbly Shews That in the Month of Septem^{r} 1772, an action was brought by John Holland of Amherst aforesaid Yeoman (a Deputy Sheriff for said County) against one Joseph Kelley of Nottingham West in said County Gentlemen, Returnable at the then next Inferior Court of Common Pleas to be Holden at Amherst aforesaid for said County in October A D 1772 who for want of Bail was Committed to his Majesty's Goal at Amherst aforesaid That the said Inf^{r} Court action came on to be tryed at Octr Court aforesaid at Amherst, and the said Kelly then a prisener Moved by One Mr. Stephen Searles his attorney that he might either have Liberty to be present at the Tryal of that Cause and some others then and there pending wherein he the said Kelley was a party, or that said Causes might be Continued until he could be present.

Notwithstanding which their Honours the Justices of the said Inf^{r} Court Ordered the said Kelly to be Defaulted, and enter'd Judgment against him in favor of said Holland for the sum of £83 Lawful Money or thereabouts, Damages & Costs, and the said Kelley being confind in said Goal by Virtue of a Writ Issuing out of s^{d} Court was under the protection of the same That to call him Out without giving him the power of being present was Requiring an Impossibility and that the said Cause ought to have been Continued by the said Court officially.

That on the 14th Day of October a D 1772 said Kelly with one John Thom who was confined in said Goal for Debt, made their Escape out of said Goal

That this Hon^{bl}^{e} Court at their adjournment in June last upon application by s'd Holland, made a Grant to him of £83 Lawful Money or thereabouts for s'd Judgment Obtained as aforesaid as your Petitioners Humbly conceived to be paid out of the Monies of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of s'd County That s'd Kelly before the s'd 14th Day of October had nearly Effected his Escape That the Sheriff of said County accepted of a Guard (Order'd by this Hon^{bl}^{e} Court) for the greater safety of the Prisoners that he had from time to time placed a guard as your Petitioners are informed Dismissed s^{d} Guard on the evening of the 13th of the s^{d} October.

That your Petitioners are Likewise informed that s^{d} Kelly frequently gave out that he Intended to make his Escape on the s^{d} 14th Day of October.

That your Petitioners apprehend that the s^{d} Sheriff was very negligent of his Duty not attending the Goal himself, and suf-

fering all his Deputys & Servants to be out of Town on s[d] Day.

That the Towns your Petitioners have the Honour to Represent with the lesser Ones, have very cheerfully borne the charges & Expenses of the County afors[d] hitherto ; which have amounted to Divers Large Sums of Money, and are still willing to bear the Necessary Charges & Expenses of s[d] County and even for the Escaped aforesaid, were they not apprehensive that some unfaithfulness or undue Practice was the sole cause of said Escape.

That the good and Wholesome Laws of this Province give to M[r] Holland and other Claimants other good Remedys for Recovering their Demands without Burthening the County.

Wherefore Your Petitioners as Agents for the several Towns afores'd which make the greatest part of the County aforesaid Humbly Pray that your Honours would suffer your Petitioners to State with Evidence the *Notorious Facts* before hinted at, and be heard by Council on the Premises—And that your Hon[rs] will be pleased to reconsider the Grant aforesaid made to s'd Holland and direct the Treasurer of s'd County not to pay the Same and be *Tended*(?) of making further Grants on account of s[d] Kelley & Thoms Escape—and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

Amherst aug[st] 10th 1773

Benj[n] Kennick
Daniel Campbell } Committee from Amherst

William Nevens
Nath[l] Ball
Elnathan Blood } Committee from Holles

Isaac How
Tim[o] Farrar } Committee from Ipswich

Abraham Page
Nehemiah Hadley } Committee from Nottingh. West

James Blanchard
Jon[a] Lovewell
Joseph Whiting } Committee from Dunstable

John Parker
Daniel Kendall } Committee from Litchfield

Jon. Blanchard
John Neal
William Alld } Committee from Merrymac

James Martin Committee Man from Bedford

James McCalley Committee Derryfield

James Karn
Moses Little } Committee from Goffs Town

Caleb Page Committee from Dunbarton

Stephen Harriman
Christopher Gould } Committee from Hopkinton

Jon[a] Dow
Samuel Philbrick } Committee from Weare

Abijah Allen, David Blodgett, Reuben Hosmer } Committee from Mason

Archibald McMillan, James Caldwell } Committee from New Boston

John Stephenson, Nath[l] Phelps } Committee from Lyndsborough

Jon[a] Martin, William Abbott Jr } Chosen by the Major part of the Freeholders of Wilton

John Cragin Jr, Samuel Howard } Committee from Temple

William Smith, John Young } Committee from Peterborough

Henry Gerrish, Peter Kimball } Committee from Boscawen

Jonas Bowman Committee from Hennikar

Ebenezer Webster, Joseph Bean } Committee for Salisbury

Copy Attest

J. Holland.

Aug y[e] 18th A D 1773 at his Majestys Court of General Sessions of the Peace held by adjournment the Question was put whether the Court would Issue an order to the treasurer to revoke the former order and it passed in the Negative Ordered therefore that the petition be Dismissed.

Copy Attest J. Holland.

This Petition is Dismiss'd.

Petition relating to Monson.

To the Honerable Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convein'd for the State of New Hampshire the second Tuesday of June 1782.

The Petition of the subscribers Humbly *Shews*

That your Petitioners Inhabitants on a tract of Land Lying between Sowhegan River and the town of Hollis (according to its first Charter) which tract was once incorperated into a Township by the name of Monson but at the time such incorpation took place, the inhabitants thereof were but few in number and unable then to Suport the Charge of a town and Comonly attended public Worship at Hollis and Amherst.

That about the year 1770 a proposal was set on Foot for Monson to be devided and by new Charters anexed to the said towns, but notwithstanding the same was considerably opposed by many of the Inhabitants Both of Monson and Amherst the same has taken place and your Petitioners have been at much Public Expence in said Towns by reason of being anexed to them.

That the Contents of Monson are at least five miles Square and the Land as good as Land Generally is in this part of the Country and is now become considerably settled and increases dayly in Improvement and inhabitants, and are now able to Reap the Benefit of an incorporation if they might Obtain such a favour as they now consist of at least eighty five Familys.

That your Petitioners are not unacquainted of a certain Petition's Now being before this Assembly Signed by a number of persons residing in what was formerly Monson, Join'd by a Number Living in Amherst (according to the first Charter) Praying for Certain matters as in the said Petition is Mentioned and as the Matters Contained in these Petitions are of much importance to both setts of Petitioners a Consideration of this their request Previous to a final determination of the Petition above aluded to may Produce such a Law as will reconcile all parties and promote their Weal, Peace and Concord. Your Petitioners therefore most Humbly pray that your Honers will Take the Premises (in all its parts) under your wise Consideration and Give them Leave to bring in such a Bill as will Place the Antiant Town of Monson in its former Situation as to Boundaries, and invest them with such Priviledges and imunities as other Towns in this State hold and do Enjoye Your Petitioners can't think a Motion of this kind will be opposed by either of the Towns of Hollis or Amherst as they are large both as to extent and inhabitants, & should your Petitioners be so fortunate as to have a Bill passed in their favour as to an incorporation they will be Willing still to pay towards suporting the Gospel in the respective Towns they now belong to till they shall Maintain Preaching among themselves a very Considerable part of the time and as this Honerable Assembly can have no other thing in view but the Peace and good Order of all parts of the State they represent your Petitioners are encouraged to hope for a grant of their Request in such a way and manner as shall seem best to your Honers and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

Dated Amherst May 23d 1782.

Josiah Kidder juner	Jonas Shattuck
Nehemiah French	Ebner Gibson
Benj[a] Messer	Eleazer Usher
Joseph French	John Stearns
Joseph Wood	Timothy Emerson Junr.
Ivory Hovey	Jonathan Lovejoy
William French	David Duncklee
Oliver Bowers	David Wallingford
Jerathmeel Colburn	Simeon Blood
William French j[r]	John Stearns Jun[r]
William Patten juner	Edward Foster
Robert Perkins	Stearns Needham
Timothy Emerson	Joshua Clark
Silas Spaulding	John Whiting

Josiah Kidder	John Dutton
Daniel Kidder	Abraham Leman
Jonath Danforth	Jonathan Spaulding
Jotham Stearns	William Peacock
Thomas Emerson	Benjamin Emerson

We the Subscribers think the foregoing requested incorporations will be more for our and the public good than the privileges asked for in a former petition now depending before this Honorable House to which we were subscribers, and therefore humbly request that the same may be granted in preference to the matters contained in the said former petition.

STEPHEN HOW
SAMUEL HOW.

Dated May ye 23d 1782.

ATKINSON AND PLAISTOW.

[For a number of papers relating to these towns see *Plaistow*, on subsequent pages. Atkinson was one of the first towns incorporated under the administration of Gov. John Wentworth. The charter bears date 3d September, 1767.—ED.]

A Petition from Plaistow.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in Cheaf in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable His Majesties Councill, and to the Honourable House of Representatives in Generill Court assembled &c.

the Humble Petition of us the Subscribers inHabitance of the North West Part of the town of Plaistow in sd Province Humbly sheweth that we are so Remote from the Place of the Publick worship of God in said town of Plastow that we cannot attend the same without Great Difeculty and whereas we are very convenient to the Place of the Publick worship of God in the town of Hampstead, we therefore Humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours to take our Dificult Case under your wise Consideration and if in your wisdom you should think Proper to Set of sd Northwest Part of sd town of Plastow the Line to Run from the Pine in Cloughs meadow (so called) South westerly to a white oake tree near Cornet John Ingalls barn thence on the Southerly side of his Land to his Southwest Corner bounds and from thence Still South westerly to the Bridge over Providence brook near John Curriers house at Salem Line and so by Salem Line to Hampstead Line & so to the first Bounds and Annex us to the sd town of Hampstead you will Greatly oblige your Humble Petitioners and they shall as in Duty bound Ever Pray &c.

Dated Plastow april ye 11 : 1766.

John Kelly	Benjamin Philbrick
Nathan Watts	Thomas Little
Benjamin Richards Jun.	John Ingalls
Micaiah Moriel	Reuben Mills
Joseph Brown	Ezekiel Belknap
Joseph Chandler	James Little
John Morrill	Moses Kelly
Thomas Chaney junr.	Moses Brown
Moses poor	Thomas Whitaker
Benjamin Emery	Moses Whitaker

Province of New Hamp } In Council June 26th 1766 Read & Ordered to be Sent down to the Honble Assembly

T. Atkinson Junr Sec'y.

Province of New Hampse } In the House of Representatives June 26th 1766.

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on the within Petition the second Day of the siting of the General Assembly After the first Day of September next and that the Petitioners at their Own Cost Cause the Selectmen of Plastow to be Served with a copy of this Petition and order of Court that they may shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer thereof Should not be Granted

M. Weare Clk.

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurr'd

T. Atkinson Junr. Secry.

To the Selectmen of the town of Plastow :—Gentn

We the Subscribers Desire that you would Put into the warning of our Next Town meeting To See if the Town will Joyn with that Part of our Parish that Live on the South Side of the Province line to Chuse a Committee to fix a place for a meeting House To Stand that shall be most convenient for the sd town & Parish in so Doing you'll much oblige your Humble Petitioners.

Aug 10th 1764

John Knight	Benja Hale
Abel Merrill	Joseph Knight
William Bradly	Enoch Noyes
Abel Merril jur	Oliver Knight
John Merrill	Stephen Knight
Nathl Knight	Joshua Knight

It is by the Desire of Several that hav'nt yet signed.

Request of the Inhabitants of Plaistow to the Selectmen, 1764.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Plastow, Gents.

We the Subscribers Desire that you would forthwith warn a meeting of the Inhabitants of s[d] town & Put into the warning of s[d] meeting to see if the Town will Joyn with that Part of our Parish that live in Haverhill & vote that the meeting House for our s[d] Parish Shall Stand in the Center of the same: if not voted; 2 To see if our town will vote to Sett a meeting House in the Center of s[d] town: if not voted

3 To see if the town or Parish will Chuse a committee to Place the meeting House for us according to their Discretion In so Doing you'll greatly oblige your Humble Petitioners

MOSES BELKNAP.

Sep[r] 18th 1764

Tristram Knight
James Little
Ezek*naϕ* Belknap
Moses Kelly
Stephen Dole
John Ingalls
Reuben Mills
Joshua Kelly
Benjamin Emery
John Stevens
Nath[el] Watts
David Currier
Joseph Hale
Jesse Page
Benjamin Richards
Daniel Richards
Benja Richards Jun
Benj Stone Jun[r]
Aaron Copp
Robert Greenough
Rbert (?) Morrill
Joseph Knight
John Merrill
Tristram Knight
Oliver Knight
John Kelly
Enoch Noyes
Benja Hale
Benj Stone
John Trusell
Jonathan Hunt
Stevens Merrill
Joseph Smith

Abner Plumer
Peter Harriman
John Harriman
Moses Greenough
Joshua Knight
John Dow
Stephen Whittaker
John Morrill
Micajah Morrill
Thomas Whitaker
Stephen Knight
John Dow Jun[r]
Ebenezer Knight
Richard Brown
William Brown
Samuel Little
Joseph Little
Leonard Harriman
Nehemiah Heath
Edmund Page
Thomas Whitaker
Stephen Whitaker
Benj[a] Richards Jun.
John Morrill
Miciah Morrill
Jon[a] Poor
Daniel Poor Jun.
Stephen Knight
Oliver Knight
Asa Page
Joseph Noyes
Samuel Little
John Dole

Petition to be set off as a Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq : Captain General and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire ; To the Honourable His Majesty's Council, and the Honourable House of Representatives.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Westerly part of the Town of Plastow Sheweth, that by reason of the many & great difficulties they undergo in attending the Publick Worship of God, at the Meeting House where it now stands, through the great distance of their dwellings therefrom, and that Meeting-House is not large enough to Acommodate more than One Half of the Inhabitants of said Town—

And as it would be greatly to the Benefit of your Petitioners and prevent Strife and Discord among the Inhabitants, and also tend to the advancement of the Gospel, your Petitioners humbly request that the Westerly Half of said Town may be set off as a Distinct Town, or Parish, the Dividing Line to run as followeth, Viz. Beginning at the North East corner of Benjamin & Ebenr Hale's Land, from thence running a straight Line to the Bridge near Ebenezer Eaton's, from thence running by the Brook unto the Road near David Bryant's and from thence running by said Road unto the Province Line. Your humble Petitioners desire your Excellency and Honours to take our Case into your wise Consideration and grant us that Relief and Benefit which to your Wisdom Shall Seem meet. And your Humble Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray

Plastow May ye 20 1766.

N. Peabody
Joseph Parker
Ebenezer Eaton
James Noyes
Mary Hale
Daniel Richards
Moses Belknap
Nath^el^ watts
John morrill
Micajah Morrill
Josep hill ordway
William Brown
Joshua Emery
Jonathan Whittaker
Eben^r^ Hale
Tristram Knight
John French
John Dow
John Dow Jr.
Jesse Page
Benjamin Richards
Edmund Page
Thomas Whittaker
David Currier
Stephen Knight
Nathaniel Page
Ebenezer Chaplin
Joseph Page
Asa Haseltine
Joseph Noyes
John Knight
Thomas Noyes
Nath Knight
Benj^a^ Hale
Joseph Knight
John Merrill
Joshua Knight
Samuel Little
John Brown
Enoch Noyes
Richard Brown
Ebenezer Knight
John Knight Jr.
Oliver Knight
Stephen Dole
Moses Whittaker
Daniel Hadley

Provce of New Hampe } In Council June 26th 1766 read & ordered to be Sent down to the Honble Assembly

T. Atkinson Junr. Secy.

Province of New Hampre } In the House of Representatives June 26th 1766 The within Petition being Read and Considered

Voted That the Petitioners be heard thereon the Second Day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the first Day of September next and that the Petitioners at their Own Cost Cause the Selectmen of Plastow to be Served with a Copy of this Petition and Order of Court that they may Shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted

M. Weare Clr

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurred T. Atkinson Secy.

At a Legal Town meeting Holden at the meeting house in Plastow October ye 9, 1764 Capt. Jonathan Carlton was Chosen moderator

Then Voted That the meeting house Should Stand Whare it Now is Ten years

A True Coppy Taken out of the Town Book of Records

Jonathan Kimball Town Clerk

Plastow November ye 3, 1766.

Daniel Hadley against the division of Plaistow, 1766.

To the General Court for the Provence of New Hampshire I would Inform your Honours that it is very much against my mind that the town of Plastow Should Be Devided or made into two Towns or Parishes for the Petition that was Entred with your Honnors the 26 Day of June Last that I signed I was over Persuaded to sign the Constabel Promising me that if I would signe said Petition he would [wait] a Grate while one me for my Rates which I then owed to him.

Plastow December 12th 1766.

Daniel Hadley.

Joshua Emery against the division of Plaistow.

To the General Cort for the Provence of New Hampshire: I would inform your Honnors that it is my mind that the town of Plastow should be cept to Gether as it is at this Day and the reason of my signing a pettition that I signed that was Entred in the Cort June 26 Last past was Because they told me that a part of our town was a Going to be Enexed to Hamsted which I am very much a Gainst. But I should be very willing that they that Have Signed to Go to Hamsted might have Liberty to pay their minester Rate at Hamsted for eight or ten year if it is their Desier.

Joshua Emery.

Plastow Jenuery 1, 1767.

New Hampshire. In the House of Representatives Aug 26, 1767

The Petitioners being heard on this Petition and also the Objections heard and Considered.

Voted That the Prayer of the Petition be Granted and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

M. Weare Clr

In Council, August 28th 1767
Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Junr Secy.

Memorial or letter of sundry inhabitants of Haverhill to the town of Plaistow, 1767.

Bretheren—though By ye Devition Line Between the provinces we were Seperated from you yet By indulgence from ye masechusets we have continued to worship with you & cherfully to pay our proportion towards the maintainance of ye Gospel & after the Death of our former minister we united with you in the Settlement of another whom we Justly Esteem & Venerate and in considisention to a Number who apeared uneasy about the Situation afe the meeting House we united with you in the choice of a committee & were at considerable Expence in Hopes to Give them Satisfaction. They Not Being Easy Have obtened a Devition af your Town Taking away By farr the Best Part of the Land your Numbers Being hereby Greatly Deminished many of those Left Being of a Sectarien Spirit. these and many other things Being considered we cant But Earnestly Entreat that as you value the interest of Religeon you would by Every proper method seek Imediate Releaf from those who we trust will Delight to promote Both your Civill & Sacred interest. Otherwise we fear you will be So Devided that we shall be obleged to Seperate from you & seek to be united to Some other Neighbor Sosiety the most Distant tho't of which we heartily Deplore Being perfectly Satisfied with our Beloved pastor who has Devoted Himself to ye work of ye Gospel ministry among us & in whose ministry you & we have Enjoyed the utmost Satisfaction & Delight.

We are your sincere & affectionate well wisher.

To ye Town clerk for plastow to be comuncate to ye inhabitants of plastow.

Haverhill North parish Decembr 10th 1767

Benjan Clement
Isaac Snow
Caleb Cushing
Nathanel Johnson
Mark Emerson
Nathel Rolfe
Jonathan Eatten
William Bryant
Richard Harriman
James Russell
William Attwod
Moses Cushing.

Information from Plaistow.

To his Excelency Benning Wintworth Esq[r] Govenour & and to the Honourable his majesties Councill and to the Honourable House of Representatives in generall Court assembled &c.

this is to Inform your Excelency and Honours that we the Subscribers Inhabitance of the town of Plastow do Judge it highly Reasonable and we think it will be for the peace of s[d] town of Plastow to set of our brethren at the northwest Part of s[d] town and annex them to the town of Hampstead the Line to Run from the pine in Cloughs meadow (so called) South Westerly to a white oak tree near Cornit Ingalls Barn thence on the Southerly Side of his Land to his South West Corner Bounds, and from thence still South westerly to the bridge over Providence Brook near John Curriers house agreeable to their Petition as witness our hands

Dated Plastow April y[e] 11 : 1766

Nicolas White	John Chaney
James White	James Chaney
Thomas Follamsbe	Moses Stevens
Abraham Chase	John Bradly
Nathaniel Cheney	Joseph Harriman junr
William Folensbe	John Heath
Nathaniel Bartlet	Abner Harriman
Josiah Copps	Moses Jackman
Samuel Heath	Benjamin Kimball
Thomas Stevens	Humphery Noyes
Samuel Kimball	John Hall
Thomas Chaney	Aaron Copp
Ephraim Emerson	Jonathan Stevens
Jonathan Eatton	Moses Page
Stephen Woodward	Daniel Whitaker
Peter Clement	Daniel Hadley
Daniel Heath	Jacob Heath.
Dustin Chaney	

Joseph Page against the division of Plaistow 1767.

To the General Court for the Province of New hampsher I would inform your Honers that it is my Desier that the Town of Plastow might Be cept to Gether as it is at this Day for the Reasons of my signing a Pettition that I signed that was Entered in the General Court June 26 Last Past was Because thay told me that a Part of the Town of Plastow was a Going to Be Ennexed to the Town of Hampsted which I am very much a Gainst my Desier is that it may Be left to Gether as it is at this Day

JOSEPH PAGE.

Plastow february 16, 1767.

Eben^r Eaton against the division of Plaistow 1767.

To the General Court for the Provence of New hampsher—

I would inform your Honours that it is my Desier that the Town of Plastow might be cept to Gether as it is at This Day for the Reason of my signing a Petton that was Entred in the Gineral Court Last June was Be cause I was over Persuaded, After Consideration I se it will be Grately to the Towns Damage there fore I Desier your Honers that you would not Grant said Pettons: not the suner for my signing s^d Pon But my Desier is that the Town of Plastow may Be cept to-Gether as it is at this Day.

EBENEZER EATTON.

Plastow March 7 1767.

Province of New Hamshire—

To the Honorable Generill Court

May it please your Honores that whereas Some time past I Signed a petition that the Town of Plastow Might be Divided being then Misinformed this therefore is to Desier your Honores Not to take any Notice of My Name in that petition for I am of the opinion tis Best for the Town to remain as it is at present

Your Honores Humble Servant

JOSEPH PARKER.

Plastow Aprill 13th 1767.

Petition of inhabitants of Plastow for annexation.

Province of
New Hampshire

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c to the Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives of said Province in General Court Assembled: the Memorial of a Number of the Inhabitants of Plastow in said Province Humbly *sheweth*

That whereas by an act of the general Court Part of the Town of Plastow hes Lately been Set off, and made a new and Destinct Parish, and whereas Several Persons included in Said New Parish Have Petitioned to be annexed to the Town of Plastow: we the Subscribers Inhabitants of said Plastow beg leave to inform your Excellency & Honours of the Reasons why we Pray their Petition may be granted.

We beg Leave to acquaint you that if Said New Parish does Not Contain a greater Quantity of Lands than is Left in said Town of Plastow, as we are not Certain but it does, yet it is very well Known that the Lands in ye former taking a just Es-

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timate of Quantity and Quality together are by far more valuable then Those of the latter, upon which account we in this Town are certainly laid under very great Disadvantages. Permit us further to observe to your Excellency & Honours that near one-half if not ye Majority of the Inhabitants of Said Plastow are either Professed Babtists or so far favourers of them as usually to Concur with them in opposing and Counteracting every necessary Measure Respecting either the Support of our Minister or ye Peace & good order of ye Town so that without Some Helps, we see no Probable or even possable way in which either the one or ye other can be Continued among us in any tolarable Degree.

We ask leave moreover to inform the Honourable Court that the North Parish in Haverhill in Massachusetts Province have hetherto ever Sence our first Incorporation into a Town Shared with us in Ministerial Charges and Privileges and appear willing to Continue with us in Case the fore said Petition be granted, so that their may be a better Prospect of Peace & order in Said Plastow; whereas if we Continue in our Present weakened and Devided State we have the greatest Reason to fear they are fully Determined to Seperate from us; in Consequence of which Seperation we are at once irrecoverably Deprived not only of their Proportion of ye ministerial Tax, but Dispossessed of ye Parsonage Buildings & land, the greatest Part by far of which lies in Said North Parish, and which we have hitherto enjoyed only by Vartue of our Connection with Them we Therefore earnestly Pray your Excellency and Honours to take the affair under Consideration and grant Such Relief for the Said Petitioners and for us as you in your wisdom Shall Think best and we as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray

Plastow Decr ye 3, 1767.

John Hall
Thomas Follamsbe
Nathaniel Bartlet
Ezekiel Gile
Peter Dow
Abraham Chase
Josiah Copp
Isaac Heath
Nathanel Smith
Daniel Gile
Benj^a^ Kimball
Benjamin Davis
Nathan Gile
David Carleton
John Heath
John Bradley
Moses Bartlett
John Chaney

Ephraim Emerson
Dustin Chaney
David Bryant
Nicolas White
Jonathan Kimball
Benjamin S. Pettengill
Benj Hale
Jacob Trussel
Nathaniel Knight
Joseph Knight
John Knight
Abel Mirrill
Abel Mirrill Jun
John Mirill
Humphrey Noyes
Humphrey Noyes Jun
Robert Greanough
Moses Greanough

Richard Greanough
Ebenezer Eatton
Aaron Coop
James Little
Nathaniel Peabody
Stephen Noyes
Jonathan Stevens Jun
John Brown
Samuel Little
Nathaniel Little
John French
Joseph French
Ebenezer Knight
Joseph Knight Jun
Joshua Knight
Mical Chaplen
Enoch Noyes
James Noyes
Robert Heath
Joseph Noyes
Thomas Noyes
Caleb Noyes
Asa Page
James White
Ebenezer Johnson
Joseph Parker
Sam^{el} Lowel
John Lowel
Richard Brown
Daniel Poor
William Brown
Benj Philbrek Jun.
Eben^{r} Chaplen
Jon^{ath} Poor
Josiph Daves
Tristram Knight
John Knight Junr
Jonathan Stevens
Oliver Knight
Elipalet Knight
Stephen Knight
Jonathan Whitaker
John Dow
John Dow Jun.
Moses Dow
Jonathan Page
Daniel Page
Benj Richards
Daniel Richards
Joseph Richards
Bradley Richards
Edmund Page
Jesse Page
Nath^{el} Page
Benj Emory
Eldad Ingals
John Ingals
Joseph Hills Ordway
Stephen Dole
John Dole
Richard Heath
Thomas Little
Thomas Little Jun.
John Kelly
Moses Kelly
William Kelly
Reuben Mills
Jonathan Eatton
John Webster
Israel Webster
Daniel Poor
David Poor
Jeremiah Poor
Daniel Merrill
Moses Page
James Page
Joseph Page
John Webster Jun.
Jonathan Webster
Timothy Page
William Webster
Samuel Webster
Daniel Whittaker
Daniel Hadley
David Currier
Joseph Hale
Timothy Page Jun.
Eb^{r} Page
Natha Wats
Nathl Burpey
Jeremiah Burpey
John Morrill
Micajah Morrill
Stephen Whittker
Moses Whittker
Thomas Whittker
Benj Richards Jun.
Joseph Emerson
Benj Philbrick
Josep Philbrick
Joseph Parmer
Thomas Chaney
Asa Harriman
Joseph Chanler
Moses Poor
Joshua Kelly
Moses Belknap
Ezkiel Belknap
Jacob Page
Mical Tinney
John Emorson
Joseph Little
Joshua Emory
Benj Emory
James Mirrill
Timothy Ladd
Asa Haseltine
Currier

Thare is 130 mens Heads above sixteen in the west end of the town of Plastow.

Thare is Eighty Seven Famelys in the West of the Town of Plastow.

Petition of Sundry Persons to be Polled from Atkinson to Plastow.

Province of
New Hampshire

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Capt. general Governor and Commander in Cheaf in and over his Majestys Province aforesaid &c and to the Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in general Court assembled at Portsmouth

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Shews where as there has been Latly Part of Plastow set off and made a New and Seperate Parish Bounded according to Cartain Lines which goes by the Name Atkinsonton in which we with our Estates falls into ye Said New Parish our Prayer and Request to this Honourable Court above mentioned is that whereas we have heretofore assisted in Building a meeting house a Pasonneg house and have Now a minister Settled in Plastow according to our Principles and Minds Therefore our Desier and Request is that we with our Estates may be set off from Said New Parish and be anexed to the old Parish or Town of Plastow that we might be and Remain as heretofore

we therefore Pray that your Excellency and Honours will Take The mater under Consideration and grant such Relief for those who Desier to be set off as afore said as you in your wisdom Shall Think best and we as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

Plastow Sept. 1767.

James White
Moses Greenough
Jonathan Eatton
John Webster
Israel Webster
Jonathan Webster
William Webster
Daniel Whitaker
Moses Page
Daniel Poor
Jonathan Page
John Webster j^r^.
Daniel Poor Junr.
Stephen Noyse
Samuel Kimball

Province of
New Hampshire
In the House of Representatives Sep. 24th 1767
The within Petition being Read and Considered

Voted That the Petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the first Day of November next and that they serve Mr. Thomas Noyes who is appointed to call the first meeting in said Atkinson with a Copy of this Petition And Order That Objections may be made to granting the Prayer of the Petition if any there be

M. WEARE.

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurr'd
T. Atkinson, Secy.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Feb. ye 12, 1768

The within Petition being Considered and the Parties fully heard thereon

Voted That the Petitioners James White & Samuel Kimball have liberty to Poll off they and their Estates to belong to the Town of Plastow and the other Petitioners have liberty to Poll off they & their Estates to belong to the Town of Plastow respecting Ministerial affairs only & the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

M. Weare Cl^r^

In Council Feb'y. 1768

The above read and the Parties being heard

Voted a Concurrence with this amendment That all the s^d^ Petitioners Excepting James White and Saml Kimball remain to the Town or Parish of Atkinson as tho' no petition had been preferred

Geo. King Depy Secy.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Feb 26th 1768

The above Vote of Councill Read and Concur'd and the Petitioners White and Kimball have liberty to bring in a Resolve accordingly.

M. Weare, Cl^r^

Memorial of Sundry Inhabitants of Plaistow against having a town set off from that, 1767.

To Excellency bening wintworth Esqr governor and comander in cheaf in and over his madgstes Provence of new hampshire in new ingland and to the Honorable his madgesties council and to the Honourable house of Representatives in generall court assembled

To the humble Petition of us the Subscribers in Habitans of the Town of Plastow Humbly Pray your Excelency and oners to Tak our Dificelt Case under your wise considerateon and we Petioners Humbly Pray that your honners would not grant the Petition that was sent in order for a town or Parish to be taken out of the said town of Plastow the Reason why is because there is great quantity of wild Land in s^d^ town that is oned by other Towns People and a great quantity of wild Land oned by Said town wherefore we are no waies able to be a parish by our Selves and in So Doing you will greatly obblige your humble Petitioners and they shall as in Duty bound Ever Pray &c.

Deted Plastow febuary ; 13, 1767

Benjamin Philbrick	Joseph Palmer
Benjamin Emery	Thomas Chancy Tuner
Joseph Chandler	Moses Poore
Joseph Kimball	Wid. Mary Little

Report of a Committee of the town of Plaistow abt. this meeting house, 1766.

We the Subscribers having been Chose a Committee by the Inhabitants of the Town of Plastow in his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and the Inhabitants of the north Parish in Haverhill in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay who Congregate with the Said Inhabitants of Plastow to State the Place where Their meeting House Shall Stand for the Future Have attended that Service, by Viewing the Several parts of Said Town and Parish agreeable to the Desire of the Inhabitants of both, and heard the Respective Parties with Respect to the Premises; and after Serious Consideration of the affair with a train of Circumstances attending the Same too long to enumerate, Do Report that our opinion is that the most Suitable Place for the meeting House to Stand at present, is where their meeting House now Stands being fully of the mind, That the Starting or Determining any other Place for that purpose, will be attended with worse Consequences to Said Inhabitants than that we have Reported

Plastow Mar^{h} 20th 1766.

THOMAS ROWELL
SAM^{l} EMERSON
EBEN^{r} STEVENS } Committee
JOSEPH FRYE
CLEM^{t} MARCH

To the Town Clerk of Plastow to be Communicated to the Inhabitants of said Town at their meeting by adjournment on the first Wednesday in April next

Mar. 20th, 1766

Com^{tees} Report.

Sundry Persons of Plastow Desire to have the Town Still remain undivided.

Plastow Decem^{r} 30th 1766

To the General Court of the province of New Hampshire

These are to inform your Hon^{rs} That whereas there was two petitions Sent to the general Court the twenty sixth of June Last past in order to be considered at the next setting one to have the town Divided the other to anex a part to Hampstead, we the Subscribers Living within the Limits of s^{d} petitions, are Desirous that Neither of them may be granted inasmuch as we think that it will very much Damnify the town at present for we Look on ourselves and the inhabitants of this town unable at present to maintain two ministers of the Gospel but inasmuch as there is a considerable Quantity of unsettled Land in this part of the town which is chiefly own'd by men belonging to other towns we are in hopes that in a few years we may be able and in the mean time we are willing that those that have petitioned to be anexed to Hampstead should attend the Publick worship of God and have Liberty to pay their minister Rate there for the term of Eight or ten years till we are

able to be two parishes and credibly to maintain two ministers for these Reasons we Desire that things may Continue as they are at present and in granting this our Request you will greatly oblige us and we think greatly benefit this town and as bound in Duty shall ever pray.

Israel Webster
John Webster
William Webster
Daniel Whittaker
Jonathan Eatton
John Webster Jr.
Moses Page
James Page
David Poor
Jonathan Webster
Stephen Noyes
Robert Greenough
Moses Greenough
Daniel Poor Jun
Jonathan Page
Jonathan Poor
Daniel Page
Humphrey Noyes
Daniel Poor
Aaron Copp
James Little

Asa Hazeltine against the division of the town of Plaistow.

Province of New Hampshire } To the Honr^le General Court for Said Province.

Whereas I the Subscriber Did sine a Petetion to The General Court to Have the Town of Plastow Divided into two Towns (s^d petition bars Date June ye 20th 1766) I was over perswaded by one of the Petitioners To Do it He Told me if we Did Not Git Divided part of the Town would Sartanly be set off to Hampstead and would spoyl the Town from Ever making Two it is not my mind Nor Never was to have the Town Divided at Present only for the above Reasons and Pray that it may be kept together

ASA HAZELTINE

Plastow Jan^r ye 1, 1767.

No. of People in Atkinson and Plastow.

1767 or 8.

Plastow Hath 576 People
Rateble Heads 142
Rateble Land 421 Acres

Atkinson Hath 476 People
Rateble Heads 118
Rateble Land 401 Acres

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives February 27th 1768.

Upon Reading & Considering the Petition of James White & Samuel Kimball both of Atkinson in Said Province with Several others to have leave to Poll off from said Parish of Atkinson to the Parish or Town of Plaistow both the Polls & Estates—after fully hearing the Parties con-

cerned and duly Considering all Circumstances Resolved and Voted That two of the Petitioners Only Viz. James White and Samuel Kimball have Liberty to Poll off from said Atkinson to Plaistow aforesaid with their familys & Estates both Real & Personal and shall hereafter be Estimated taken & adjudged to be part of & to belong to the said Town of Plaistow and shall be adjudged Liable & Subject to all duties Taxes and orders of Said Town as much as and in the same manner as other Inhabitants of Said Town in Proportion to their Estates Saving that their future Purchases of Real Estate shall belong to the Town or Parish where they lay

P. GILMAN Speaker

In Council March 16 1768
read & Concurred
George King Dep. Secy.

Assented to

J. WENTWORTH.

James White's Reasons for wishing to remain in the town of Plaistow.

The Subscriber for the folowing Reasons prayes that he may not be set of from The Town of plastow

for that I have Been at a Considerable cost for the Building of the meeting house Thare and Lately In Repairing of it. That my land layes near the one half of It In haver[11] north parish the land where my Buildings Stands comes within about half a mile of plastow meeting house

JAMES WHITE.

List of Baptists in Plaistow. (Supposed)

Those that Profess themselves of y[e] Baptist Perswation which in all Parrish afairs have appeared against y[e] Peace & welfair of our minister and his society are as follows:

Joseph Flint	Joseph Welch
Daniel Emerson	John Copp
Nehemiah Heath	Moses Orway
Abner Plummer	Enoch Johnson
Job Eatton	John Stevens
Bartholomew Heath	Stevens Merrill
Joseph Harriman	Ebenezer Noyes
Joseph Harriman Jun.	Selvenes Noyes
James Bly	Moses Stevens Jun.
Joseph Smith	Stephen Flanders
Jonathan Smith	Samuel Welch
John Pollard	James Huse
Daniel Ayer	Samuel Dow
Simon Follansbe	John Trusel
Edmond Pilsbury	Widow Dow

The Hole of ye Inhabitence Besides the above mentioned which was Rated in y[e] Last minister Rate which has Ben made are 70 Seventeen of which has ben taken Notice in Town meetings to joyn with y[e] Baptists in voting 4 of which are widows & some stands as Nuters.

BARRINGTON.

[This town was incorporated 10 May, 1722.—Ed.]

A List of the original Proprietors of the Town of Barrington with the Rate which each man Paid & by which the Quantity of Acres each man had is ascertained at the rate of two Pence pr acre & also the number of Each Lot as the Same was drawn by each Propr or his Constituent

	The Proprietors Names	Acres	Rods wide	rate	
				£	S
1	Henry Keese	270	135	2	5
2	Thos Hammett	60	30		10
3	John Moor	72	36		12
4	Francis Rand	60	30		10
5	Benja Gamblin	330	160	2	15
6	Eleazr Russell	96	48		16
7	Widow Hatch	60	30		10
8	Edward Cater	120	60	1	
9	Wm White	90	45		15
10	Revd Rogers	360	180	3	
11	James Libby	120	60	1	
12	Saml Allcock	210	105	1	15
13	Jno Roberts	210	105	1	15
14	Saml Hart	180	90	1	10
15	Jno Shackford	210	105	1	15
16	Joseph Holmes	150	75	1	5
17	Wm Warren	60	30		10
18	Jno Shores	60	30		10
19					
20	Doctr Baley	96	48		16 (?)
21	Wm Bridgham	96	48		16
22	Agnis Russell	30	15		5
23	Thos Phips	300	150	2	10
24	Richd Wibird	660	330	5	10
25	Thos Westbrook	300	150	2	10
26	Wm Cotten Junr.	120	60	1	
27	Peter Greeley	120	60	1	
28	Ephm Dennet	360	180	3	
29	Widow Hunking	108	54		18
30	Hen Sherburn Jun	90	45		15
31	Wm Lowde	192	96	1	12
32	Jno Plaisted	414	207	3	9
33	Joseph Moses	72	36		12
34	Benja Langley	96	48		16
35	Jno Savage	72	36		12
36	Robert Armstrong	240	120	2	
37	Bishop	72	36		12
38	Joseph Pitman	78	39		13
39	Thos Cotten	90	45		15
40	Thos Barns	96	48		16
41	Michl Kennard	180	90	1	10
42	Wm Knight	330	165	2	15
43	Jno Clark	84	42		14
44	Thos Landell	120	60	1	
45	Ed Pendexter	96	48		16
46	Jno Lear	108	54		18
47	Jethro Furber	72	36		12
48	Stephen Greenleaf	120	60	1	
49	Stephen Lang	120	60	1	
50	Richd Cutt	72	36		12
51	Widow Walker	48	24		8
52	Widow Jackson	90	45		15
53	Wm Bradden	72	36		12
54	Widow Tapley	120	60	1	
55	Benja Akerman	120	60	1	
56	Saml Hinks	72	36		12

	Proprietors Names	Acres	Rods wide	rate	
				£	S
57	Henry Slooper	276	138	2	6
58	Thomas Sibson	180	90	1	10
59	Thos Main	72	36		12
60	Thos Crocket	78	39		13
61	James Spinney	120	60	1	
62	Edward Cate	120	60	1	
63	Richd Waterhouse	180	90	1	10
64	Richd Cross	120	60	1	
65	Thomas Ayre	150	75	1	5
66	Reuben Abbott	72	36		12
67	Capt Wm Cotten	150	75	1	5
68	Jno Brewster	150	75	1	5
69	Jno. Hooper	60	30		10
70	Josiah Clark	120	60	1	
71	Wm Amoss	72	36		12
72	Jno Hill	96	48		16
73	Edward Toogood	144	72	1	4
74	Saml Hewett	108	54		18
75	Alex Dennet	180	90	1	10
76	Mathew Nelson	150	75	1	5
77	Nathl Tuckerman	132	66	1	2
78	Tim Davis	96	48		16
79	Jonathan Stoodly	120	60	1	
80	Geo. Banfill	84	42		14
81	Ed Phillips	54	27		9
82	Jno Deverson	72	36		12
83	Joseph Fannin	90	45		15
84	Abraham Libby	72	36		12
85	Saml Banfield	180	90	1	10
86	Charles Brown	54	27		9
87	Thos Greely	72	36		12
88	Wm Parker	240	120	2	
89	Sampson Babb	240	120	2	
90	Jno Lang	126	63	1	1
91	Tim Waterhouse	150	75	1	5
92	Henry Beck	72	36		12
93	Saml Ham	156	78	1	6
94	Abraham Barns	60	30		10
95	Widow Almary	30	15		5
96	Jno Roberson	144	72	1	4
97	Anthony Row Junr.	72	36		12
98	Geo Walker	72	36		12
99	Edward Cate Jun.	150	75	1	5
100	Joseph Miller	90	45		15
101	Richd Waldron	216	108	1	10
102	Thos Harvey	150	75	1	5
103	Saml Sherburn	120	60	1	
104	Walter Warren	120	60	1	
105	Wm Cross	72	36		12
106	Jos Allcock	168	84	1	8
107	Thos Beck	90	45		15
108	Jacob Lavis	72	36		12
109	Caleb Grafton	30	15		5
110	Jno Churchill	60	30		10
111	Doctor Pike	240	120	2	
112	Ambs Slooper	180	90	1	10
113	Jos Moulton	138	69	1	3
114	Abrm Jones	150	75	1	5
115	Thos Beck Junr	78	39		13
116	Abrm Bartlett	72	36		12
117	Mich Whidden	210	105	1	15
118	James Moses	90	45		15
119	Jno Abbot	84	42		14
120	Thos Moore	72	36		12
121	Wm Frost	72	36		12
122	Wm Lewis	90	45		15
123	Jno Savage	150	75	1	5
124	Jno Peverly Jun.	96	38		16
125	Solomon Cotten	72	36		12
126	William Hunking	30	15		5

	Proprietors Names	Acres	Rods wide	rate £	rate S
127	Saml Shackford	210	105	1	15
128	Jno Cotten	144	72	1	4
129	Doctor Ross	96	48		16
130	Jno Ham	48	24		8
131	Michl Whidden Jr	84	42		14
132	Saml Brewster	90	45		15
133	Jno Davis	120	60	1	
134	Jno Libby	144	72	1	4
135	Roger Swain	84	42		14
136	Widow Briard	36	18		6
137	Jno Almary	120	60	1	
138	Tobias Langdon	240	120	2	
139	Richd Elliot	96	48		16
140	Hen Bickford	96	48		16
141	Obadiah Morse	48	24		8
142	Nathl Odiorne	108	54		18
143	Geo Jaffrey	600	300	5	
144	Mathew James	120	60	1	
145	Jos Sherburn	354	177	2	19
146	Jno Jones	132	66	1	2
147	Jno Grindal	72	36		12
148	Nathl Peverly	90	45		15
149	Thos Packer	648	324	5	8
150	James Jeffrey	240	120	2	
151	Jer. Neal	90	45		15
152	David Gardiner	120	60	1	
153	Nathl Lang	120	60	1	
154	Philip Gammon	36	18		6
155	Peter Ball	120	60	1	
156	Joshua Peirce	720	360	6	
157	Jno Hooker	96	48		16
158	Thos Sherburn	96	48		16
159	Zac Leach	90	45		15
160	Richd Pashley	144	72	1	4
161	Richd Tobey	144	72	1	4
162	Widow Marshall	90	45		15
163	Jno Cutt	150	75	1	5
164	Moses Caverly	120	60	1	
165	Jno Mardin	66	33		11
166	Jno Hardeson	180	90	1	10
167	Saml Penhallow	720	360	6	
168	Richd Jose	120	60	1	
169	Wm Fairweather	72	36		12
170	Ephm Jackson	168	84	1	8
171	Colo Hunking	210	105	1	15
172	Widow Martin	120	60	1	
173	Wm Peverly	120	60	1	
174	Benja. Lucy	96	48		16
175	Robert Almary	96	48		16
176	Gov. Wentworth	720	360	6	
177	Cha Banfill (1)	60	30		10
180	Alex Roberts	180	90	1	10
181	Capt. Geo Walker	300	150	2	10
182	Saml Pitman	90	45		15
183	Geo Townsend	108	54		18
184	Saml Snell	36	18		6
185	Saml Waterhouse	24	12		4
186	Jno Sparks	72	36		12
187	Jno Davis	90	45		15
188	Jno Cross	30	15		5
189	Benja Cross	210	105	1	15
190	Nathl Mendam	240	120	2	
191	Robert Pickering	72	36		10
192	Arch Macphadris	600	300	5	
193	Moses Paul	210	105	1	15
194	Jno Bradford	96	48		16
195	Nehemiah Partridge	72	36		12
196	Peter Moore	84	42		14
197	Thos Wilkinson	60	30		10
198	Philip Babb	72	36		12

(1) First lot 5th range.

	Proprietors Names	Acres	Rods wide	rate £	rate S
199	Benja Cotten	90	45		15
200	Jos Buss	96	48		16
201	Saml Winkley	240	120	2	
202	Benja Miller	120	60	1	
203	James Pitman	60	30		15
204	Christr Noble	96	48		16
205	Thos Wright	150	75	1	5
206	Robert Ward	96	48		10
207	Widow Pitman & Son Jabez	30	15		5
208	Jno Ford	72	36		10
209	George Peirce	210	105	1	15
210	Colo Vaughan	240	120	2	
211	Wm Cotten	210	105	1	15
213	Wm Barns	72	36		12
214	Richd Swain	72	36		12
215	Jno Cowel	84	42		14
216	Wm Ross	72	36		12
217	James Sherburn	90	45		15
218	Jno Sherburn	120	60	1	
219	Nathl Melcher	72	36		12
220	Thos Peirce	210	105	1	15
221	Peter Abbot	60	30		10
222	Jno Edmonds	84	42		14
223	Thos Walden	150	75	1	5
224	Hen Sherburn	192	96	1	12
225	Alex Miller	180	90	1	10
226	Anthony Roe	60	30		10
227	Capt. Tobias Langdon	300	150	2	10
228	Ezek Pitman	120	60	1	
229	James Stootly	30	15		5
230	Clemt Hughs	180	90	1	10
231	Jno Drew	120	60	1	
232	Jos Berry	60	30		10
233	Jacob Tash	90	45		15
235	Daniel Quick	96	48		16
236	Jer Libby	180	90	1	10
237	Jno Preston	120	60	1	
238	Wm Fellows	240	120	2	
239	Saml Brown	72	36		12
240	Jno Pray	138	69	1	3
241	Capt Hen Sherburn	552	276	4	12
242	Jno Peverly	96	48		16
243	Wm Terret	24	12		4
244	Jno Skillings	96	48		10
245	Richd Saulridge	108	54		12
246	Ed Ayers	210	105	1	15
247	Saml Monson	120	60	1	
248	Daniel Jackson	72	36		12
249	Nath Robertson	60	30		10
250	Moses Ingraham	120	60	1	
251	James Leach	90	45		15
252	Jona Partridge	72	36		12
253	Jno Sherburn's widow	24	12		4
254	Ed Wells	120	60	1	
255	Stepn Noble	90	45		12
256	Steph Noble	60	30		10
257	Wm Bennet	120	60	1	
258	Hen Seaward	120	60	1	
259	Thos Larraby	120	60	1	
260	Nathl Fellows	72	36		12
261	Mary Moore Alis Leach	30	15		5
262	Geo Ayers	96	48		16
263	Arch Hunking	72	36		12
264	Hugh Banfill	108	54		18
265	Amos Furnell	150	75	1	5
266	Abraham Dent	6	3		1
267	Saml Rhymes	96	48		16
268	Saml Clark	132	66	1	2
269	Widow Nelson & Son	150	75	1	5
270	Francis Ditty	60	30		10

	Proprietors Names	Acres	Rods wide	rate £	rate S
271	Jos Mead	108	54		18
272	Jno Collings	60	30		10
273	Joseph Sibson	120	60	1	
274	Laz Noble	60	30		10
275	Laz Holmes	42	21		7
276	Abraham Center	96	48		16
277	Jer Calf	72	36		12
19	Not drawn				
178	Not drawn				
179	Not drawn				
212	Not drawn				
234	Not drawn				

No 38: 39: 142: 143: 234: 235 are the Northernmost rights in the six ranges of the Town of Barrington & 1: 88: 89: 189: 190 with 277 are near if not the most Southern Lotts of said town.

Petition for power to raise money, &c.

Province of
New Hamp.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor and Commander In Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England the Hon[bl]e His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for Said Province in General Court Convened

The Humble Petition of Thomas Wright Mercht & Daniel Jackson Shop keeper both of Portsmouth in said Province being the Surviving Agents of the Proprietors of the Township of Barrington in the Province aforesaid Shews—

That: the Laws of this Province Respecting Proprieties of Townships or other Common & undivided Lands are very Defective & Insufficient in many Regards to Enable the Proprietors as a Distinct Body from the Inhabitants of the Towns where they Live to Transact & carry on the Business of Such Proprieties But in Particular with respect to the Speedy Collecting & levying Such Sums of Money as have at any time been Granted & Voted by the Propriety which very much Clogs & Embarrasses their affairs & Greatly Retards the Settlement of New Town ships and thereby in a Great Measure Defeats the Good Purposes of Granting Such Townships Since there is no making a Settlement without raising money and many Persons get in to be Proprietors who will not Voluntarily pay their proportion of the Charges

That: the Proprietors of the Said Township of Barrington are Involved in the same Difficulties of other Proprieties in the aforesaid Regards and in Special with Respect to that Important Article of Raising Money having Several Sums in

Arrearage which tho' they have assessed & apportioned upon the Proprietors are not paid in but Either Remain uncollected or are in the Constables hands and that thro' a Defi ciency of the Laws upon which the Propriety is formed

Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of their principals most Humbly Pray that an act may be now past to Enable the Collector or Constable of the Said Propriety to Collect & Levy their arrearages in the same Summary way the Constables of Towns may do and give the said Proprietors the same Remedy against their Delinquent Collectors or Constables and also to make Effectual Provision for Raising & Levying money upon themselves for the future in such an Expeditious method as the nature of their affairs Require & Your Petitioners as in duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c

March 4th 1741

THOMAS WRIGHT
DANL JACKSON

In the House of Representatives March the 12rh 1741. the within Petition Read and

Voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be so far granted, That for the future, the Proprietors be Enabled to make Notes & Raise money on themselves and that the Collectors & Constables be enabled to gather the same, and that the Proprietors Shall have the same Remedy against their delinquent Collectors & Constables as other Towns have and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

James Jeffrey Clr assem

In Council March 20th 1741
The above Vote read & Concurred
Theod Atkinson Secy.

March 22 Assented to.

B. WENTWORTH

Petition of Thomas Shepard.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire, The Honorable his Majestys Councill and house of Representatives in General Assembly convened—

The Petition of Thomas Shepherd in Behalf of himself and the other Inhabitants of the Two mile Streak (so called) in the Township of Barrington in said Province most humbly shews That there are sixteen families settled within the said Two mile Streak, containing upwards of ninety Persons in all That the Situation of the Same is such that the Inhabitants are very much exposed unto the Indian Enemy

That the summer past the laboring People there were obliged to leave their wives and children at home naked & defenceless whilst they went out about their business of husbandry having no Soldiers there to guard and protect them

That they are in great fear that the Indians will destroy some of them the approaching Spring and Summer, if they tarry there, unless the Government Allows them Some Protection. That in Case the said Inhabitants move in, it will give the Enemy an advantage besides that thereby your Petitioners Plantation where they raise Considerable Provision will lay unimproved

Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours to take their Case under Consideration and to allow them such a number of Soldiers & for such time as you shall judge reasonable, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

Feb^{ry} 23^{d} 1747

THOMAS SHIPHERD.

In Council March 8th 1747.
read & ordered to be sent Doun to the Honble House.
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Petition of John Macmath & Thos. Shepard.

May it please y^{r} Excellance wee make bould To Truble y^{r} Excellance & y^{r} honourable Council taking into Consideration our Dangerous Condition of our Enimys the Want of what men you shall think proper to Steate One the two Garresons at Twomill Streik In Barrington being Oblidged to Leave our Wemen & Children Exposed in Said houses Otherwise our Cropes must Suffer Our Dependence Is One y^{r} Excellance & that you will Not lett us be any longer in Such a Condition being the Needfull and are ever y^{r} Excellances humb^{l} Servants

J. W. MACMATH
THO^{s} SHEEPHARD

Two Mill Streak
In Barrington
Jan the 15 1747.

Petition of Selectmen of Barrington, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governer & Commander in Chief of his majestys Province of New Hampshire &c &c

Barrington Feb. 10th 1762

Sir

Whereas The Town of Barrington has for Some years past paid a Considerable Province Tax and has upwards of 120 Poles in it, which we humbly hope Intittles us to ask the favour That we may Chuse one Assembly man to Represent Said Town in ye General assembly

Therefore Pray your Excellency would Vouchsafe to Grant the Town of Barrington a Liberty to Chuse such a Representative to appear for us in ye General assembly of this Province; Which favour we shall soe duely Esteem and as in Duty Bound ever pray for the Supporters of our Privelidge

John Garland, Eleazer Young, Wm Cate } Selectmen.

Paul Hayes
John Hayes
Hezekiah Hayes
Mark Hunking
Francis Winkley Jun

Portsmouth Feb. 19th 1762

Upon the within Petition I have thought it for His Majestys Service to Incert in the Kings writ the Town of Barrington which please to fill up that they thereby may send a precept to the Select men in time to make Choice of a proper person to represent them in the next General assembly

I am Sir Your hum Servt

B. Wentworth

To the Honble The Atkinson Esq

At our Anual Town meeting held at The meeting house In Barrington on Wednesday The 28th day of march 1770 our Petition Relating to Parish orders has Been Notified and Read in Said meeting.

Barrington March the 29th 1770.

James Marden
Toun Clerk.

At a Town meeting held at the meeting house in Barrington on Thursday The first Day of march 1770 according to Notification Then Voted Deacon John Garland & Liutenant Samuel Brewster as a Committee or agents to Pertition The General Court for Paresh Powers to Transact our affairs Relating to a minister Seprate from other affairs of The Town and from other Sosieties Now Subsisting in Town

Barrington, March the 19th, 1770.

Attest James Marden
town Clerk

Garland & Brewster's Petition in behalf of the town of Barrington, March 1770.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over the Province of New Hampshire the Honble his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened. March 22 1770

The Humble Petition of John Garland and Samuel Brewster both of Barrington in said Province as agents for Barrington aforesaid Shews

That there are in said Town a number of the Inhabitants who call themselves Quakers a number who are Separatists from all Denominations of Christians and also a number of members of the Church of England besides the Common Denomi-

nation called Congregationalists. That there is no settled minister of that order nor any other in said Town at Present but frequently Lay Teachers come there and Encourage Separations & Divisions and as they all belong to the Town whenever there is a Town meeting to consider of Settling a minister as the Law of the Province Directs, they all attend & Sometimes out Vote the others & Introduce the greatest disorder & Confusion

Wherefore Your Petitioners humbly Pray that they whose sentiments are in the Congregational way & such others as will join them may be erected into a Parish & Authorized to Transact all affairs relating to Settling & maintaining a Minister of the Gospel & other affairs relative thereto according to Law by themselves exclusive of all others who will not join with them as members of the Same Parish or Society and that they may have leave to bring in a bill accordingly and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray &c

JOHN GARLAND
SAMUEL BREWSTER

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives March 22d 1770

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on Friday the thirtieth Day of March Instant if the General assembly be then Sitting and if not Then on the Second Day of their siting next after And that they Cause the Substance of the Petition and Order to be Posted up at the Meeting house in said Barrington and if a Town meeting Shall be held in said Town before that Day then the same to be read at said meeting that any person may Shew Cause why the prayer thereof Should not be Granted

M. Weare Clr

In Council eodem Die
Read & Concurred
Geo. King D. Sec

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives March 30, 1770

The Petitioners being heard on this Petition and no Objection made by any Person and the Prayer of the Petition appearing to be Reasonable

Voted That the Prayer of the Petition be Granted and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

M. Weare Clr

In Council Apr. 12, 1770
Read & Concurred
Geo King D. Sec

BEDFORD.

[This town was granted by Massachusetts in 1733, and continued under the government of that Province until 1741. It was first called Narraganset, No. 5, afterwards Souhegan East. It was incorporated by the name of Bedford, 19 May, 1750. —Ed.]

Souhegan People's Petition for aid, &c.

(Now Bedford.)

Souhegan East June 12 1744

We the Inhabitants of Souhegan East Apprehending our selves Exposed to Immenent Danger both from the French & Indian Enemys & being in no capacity to make a proper Stand in case of an assault from do constitute & appoint Mr. John Chamberlin our Delegate requesting him in y^{t} capacity with all possible speed to repair to Portsmouth & to represent our Deplorable case to his Excellency our Governor and ye general assembly and request of them such aids both in respect of men & military stores as to their great wisdom may seem meet and which may put us in a capacity to repel all attempts of our s^{d} enemies

John Riddel
John Riddel Jr.
Forges Kenn^{d}
Hugh Ridell
Ritchard McAllister
James Kinnock
John McDugel
Moses Barron
James Moor
John Burns
John Toms
James Moor
John Morehead
Eleazer Lyon
John Roby
John Carr
Thomas Vickere
Thomas Vickere Sen
Saml Woods
James Walker
Benjamin Kidder
William Patterson
John Moor
Robert Gilmore
Thomas Chandler
Samuel Patten
Matthew Patten
Jonathan Lyon
John Orr
James Linn
John Durgee
Alex^{r} Walker
William Calwell
Jas Little
John Patten
Robert Walker

A List of the names of the families of the Inhabitants of Souhegan East upon Merrimack River.

Timothy Corlis
John More
Robert Gillemore
Robert Little
John Goffe
William Pateson
Thomas Chandler
John Blare
Benjamin Smith Jun
John MacDugel
James Walker
Samuel Woods
Ephraim Bushnel
Thomas Worthley
Lev^{t} Moses Barns
Thomas Vickers
Elizer Lion
Robert Gilmore
John Robe
Thomas Farmer
Thomas Farmer Jun
Benjamin Smith

John Taylor
Cap. John Chamberlin
Canada
John Tom
Morehead
William Patison Jun
James More Jun
Thomas Barn
James More
James Mathews
Benjamin Smith third
John Orr
Joseph Canada
John Quig
John Burns
Gorn (?) Ridle
Wid MacQuade
Robert Walker
Hugh Ridle
Forges Canada
John Ridle
Jonathan Lion
James Little
James Lynn
Elexander Walker
John Bell
Samuel Pattin
Matthew Patten Jr.
Kiders family.

To Inable the Inhabitants on a Tract of Land on the West Side of Merrimack River, to raise a reasonable Tax for the Support of a Minister of the Gospel &c & to make choice of fit persons to collect the Same

It is ordered by His Excelency with the advice of His Majestys Council That on ——— day of April next Capt John Goffe holds the first Town meeting giveing Ten days Notice thereof to the Inhabitants.

Petition of Presbyterians in Bedford.

To His Exell'y Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor & Comander In Chief of His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and to the Honourable His Majestys Counsil assembled at Portsmouth May ye 10th 1750.

The Humble Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of Souhegan East so called *Sheweth*

That your Petitioners are the Major part of sd. Souhegan that your Petitioners as to our particular persuasion in Christianity are Generally of the Presbyterian Denomination That your petitioners through a variety of Causes having been Long Destitute of the Gospel are now Desirous of taking the proper steps in Order to have it Settled among us in the way of Discipline which we judge to tend most to our Edification That your Petitioners not being incorporated by Civill authority are in no Capacity to Raise those Sums of money which may be needfull in order to our proceeding in the above Important affair.

May it therefore Please your Excell'y & Hon^rs^ to take the Case of your Petitioners under Consideration and to Incorporate us into a town or Destrick or in Case any part of our Inhabitants should be taken off By any Neighbouring Destrick to Grant that those of our persuasion who are Desirous of Adhering to us may be Notwithstanding Excused from supporting any other Parish Charge than where they Consciencously

adhere we Desiring the Same Liberty to those within our Bounds if any yet be and yo[r] Petiti[rs] shall Ever Pray &c

Samuel Miller	Robert Gilmor sen.
William Moor	James Mathis
John Riddell	Forges Kennedy
Thomas Vickere	John McLaughlin
Matthew Little	William Kennedy
James Moor	Forgious Kennedy
John Tom	David Thomsond
James Kennedy	James McNight
Robert Gilmor	Hugh Riddel
Richard McAllister	John Burns
John Moor	Daniel Moor
Thomas Chamb'rl'n	James Moore
John McDugle	Gerard Rowell
Samuel Patten	John Clark
Alex[r] Walker	James Walker
Gan (?) Ridell	John McQuige
Ben Smith	Robert Walker
John Goffe	John Bell
John Orr	Patrick Taggart
John Morehead	Matthew Patten
James Little	John McLaughlin Sen[r]

These are to certifie that we the above Subscribers Do Commission John Goffe Esq[r] and Mr. samuel patten to present this petition in order to obtaine Incorporation for us according to their Instructions from us the subscribers

JAMES LITTLE, Cleark.

Daited May the 10th 1750

Bedford Petition for the revival of their propriety.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Gov[r] &c. The Hon[bl] his Majesties Councel And house of Represe[ves] in General assembly Convened at Portsmouth the thirteenth day of July 1756

The Inhabitants of the town of Bedford in the province of New Hampshire Most Humbly Sheweth

That the proprietors of Narragansett Township No. 5 Alias Bedford and part of Merrymac have not had a prop[rs] meeting for several years and that the Clerk of said propriety has been Dead some space of time and there is no Comitee in the propriety to Call proprietors meetings The Consequence whereof tends much to your petitioners Damage

That there was Land Reserved by the prop[rs] in their Survey of the said town for highways and inasmuch as roads Cannot be made on all the said land so reserved we are obliged to Lay out roads Elsewhere and for want of a prop[rs] meeting Legally Called, The power of Disposal of said reserved land Cannot be given to the town which if it were we might change with

those persons who have their land Cut with town roads who ought to have a proper Satisfaction for their lands so taken and would thereby prevent the towns paying a Considerable of money yearly

Wherefore we pray that your Excellency and hon^{rs} would take the premises in Consideration and Grant us an order to Call a prop^{rs} meeting of Narragansett Township N^{o} five and your petitioners shall ever pray

MATH^{W} PATTEN
by a vote of the town.

In Council July 15 1756
read & ordered to be sent Doun to the Honble House
Theodore Atkinson Secy
This Petition being read ordered that it be Dismissed
A. Clarksen Clerk

Bedford Petition for a tax on their land.

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Govr. &c. The Hon^{l} his Majesties Councel And house of Represent^{ves} in General assembly Convend at Portsmouth the thirteenth day of July 1756

The Inhabitants of the town of Bedford in the province of New Hampshire would most humbly Remonstrate That the fewness in number of our Inhabitants with the Expences which Necessaryly arises for us to pay and the Deficultys attending the performing the settlement of a new Town That a large Quantity of the town Lying unsettled and vacant of any Inhabitants and have Rec^{d} no help to Defraying any of our Necessary Charges from the proprietors of any such unsettled land, for the space of twelve or fourteen years in which term we (being a Fronteer) Endured the hardship of the late Indian war for which Reasons your Petitioners is rendered very unable to Carrie on the building a house for the publick Worship of God or a house for the use of the ministery in said town

Wherefore we humbly pray that your Excelency and hon^{rs} would take our case in Consideration, and Grant us a tax on all the land in the town (Exclusive of Ministery Ministerial School and highway Lands) for the term of two years at sixpence pr. acre Each year or so much as you in your wisdoms Shall think Sufficient for the purposes aforesaid and your petitioners shall ever pray

MATTHEW PATTEN Agent for the town

In Council July 15th 1756.
read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble House
Theod Atkinson Sec

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives July 15th 1756
The above Petition being read
Ordered That the Petitioner be heard thereon ye 2d Day of the Sitting of the General assembly next after the 1st day of sept next Ensueing & Yt in ye meantime ye petitioner at his own Cost & Charge Cause this order of Court with the Substance of sd Petition to be advertised in some publick print for three weeks successively
Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council July 15 1756
The within vote read & Concurred
Theod Atkinson Secy

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Decr 16, 1756
This Petition being read
Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted, & that the petitioner have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly
Andrew Clarkson Clk.

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Petition of James Caldwell.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governor & Commander In Chief In & over his Majesty's province of New Hampshire the Honbles his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives In General Assembly Convd the 30th day of Novr 1763

The Petition of James Caldwell of Bedford In said province Humbly Shews that your petitioner being one of the Selectmen of Said Town for the year 1762 together with Mr. John Goffe & Mr. James Lions did agreeable to their usual form & Custom & agreeable to Law (for calling Town meeting) put up a notification for calling the free holders & other Inhabitants of said Town together at the usual place for Chusing selectmen Constable & other Town officers for said Town as the Law Directed, agreeable thereto the Inhabitants of said Bedford met and at said meeting made choice of Mr Jno Bell to be their Moderator & then proceeded to the Choice of the Select men & other Town officers, when the Moderator Declared that by the Votes Brought In they had made choice of Mr. James Little, Mr. Saml Pattin & your petitioner for their Select men & Mr. Richard McAllester as Constable for Said Town to Collect the Taxes, so it hapned that at said meeting there was no Justice present to sware sd officers & no Refusal from any one of them

at that time that they would not serve, but since it so happens by some misunderstanding or other that Mr Saml Pattin who was Chosen as a Select man refuses, as well the Constable Mr. Richard McAllester they calling it an Illegal meeting for what Reason is best known to themselves, as your petitioner is Quite Ignorant of any Illegality & your petitioner with Mr. James Little another of the Selectmen of said Town (being Ignorant of the Law in such Cases) did put up one other notification for calling a meeting In Said Town for Chusing Town Officers which meeting was held on the 24 ultimo when other officers were chosen in their stead, but by our charter we find we can hold no town meeting, Only on the last Wednesday of March for choice ot Town offi cers which we did agreeable to said Charter & the several officers was Chosen as before mentioned, & expecting they would take the oaths as usual, the Moderator Dissolved the meeting by which means we are not able to Call any Town meeting for this Year Chusing proper officers to Levy & Collect the province Tax laid on said town of Bedford & if not Leevy'd & Collected this present year, the Burthen the next would then of Consequence be double the sum its this year, which would make it very difficult. Wherefore your petitioner Humbly prays the aid of this honorable Court touching the premises, & that you'd be pleased to Grant such Releif as you in your great wisdom Shall think proper & your petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c

JAMES CALDWELL

In Council December 1 1763 read & sent down to the Honble assembly
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of New Hamps } In the house of Representatives Decr. 1, 1763.

This petition being Read Voted that the prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioner have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly
A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die read & Concurred
Theodore Atkinson Secy.
Assented to B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of the Selectmen & Committee of Safety of Bedford.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety of the State of New Hampshire.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Selectmen and Committee of Safety for the Town of Bedford in the County of Hillsborough in said state Humbly shews That your Petitioners are

Informed that Mr John Houston of said Bedford Intends to make application to your Honours to have Liberty to Take the oath of Fidelity to the State—to serve a Secular Interest as we apprehend we Humbly Pray that you would Defer His Taking it or giving him any Recommendation in his Favour as being Friendly to the Cause of America untill the Town of Bedford shall be Notified to appear at a Convenient Time as you Shall think Proper to shew cause why he ought not to be admitted to said oath which we Conceive They are Capable to do and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever Pray

THOMAS BOICE
JAMES VOSE
WILLIAM WHITE
} Selectmen

Bedford, Sepr ye 24th 1778

We the Subscribers appoint Capt. Samuel Patten to Present this our Petition

JAMES CALDWELL
SAM^l^ PATTEN
JOHN GOFFE
SAM^l^ VOSE
JOHN BELL
} Committee of Safety

BENNINGTON.

[This town is in Vermont. It was granted by Governor Benning Wentworth, 3d January, 1749, and from him derived its name. ED.]

Mr. Saml Robinson's petition, Decr 9th, 1763.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in chief in & over the Province of New Hampshire The Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened, Decemb^r^ 8th 1763

The Humble Petition of Samuel Robinson of Bennington in said Province Esqr as agent for & in behalf of the Inhabitants of said town Shews

That there are about fifty Families Settled in Said Town and a minister of the Gospel settled among them, and the said Town is in a Good forwardness & Prosperous condition considering the time of the Grant and the distance from other Settlements,

That the burden of Supporting the usual Town Charges is heavy upon new Settlements especially till they have the necessary Public Buildings finished and the Building a Convenient Meeting House for Public Worship and a Convenient School house is at present too Great a Charge for the said Inhab-

itants but as those houses being built & duly Improved greatly Encourages Settlers & raises the Value of the Lands Your Petition[r] humbly Prays That they may be authorized to lay a Tax for a Limited time on the Lands in said Township for so much annually and for such a time as will be Sufficient to defray the Charge of Building such a Meeting house & School house within said Township and they will ever Pray &c

SAM[l] ROBINSON

In Council December 8th 1763
Read & Sent down to the Hon[ble] Assembly

Province of } In the house of Representatives Dec[r] 9th 1763
New Hamp } This petition being read.

Voted That the petitioner be heard thereon the second day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the first day of Feby next & that he Cause the substance of this petition & order of Court thereon to be advertised three weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazette that any persons concerned may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

A Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun. Secy

BOSCAWEN.

[This town was granted by Massachusetts, and was called Contoocook, until incorporated by New Hampshire, 22 April 1760. ED.]

Petition of Contoocook, Penacook and Canterbury for protection from the Indians, 1747.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General and Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp[r] To the Honorable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened the twelfth Day of November 1747

The petition of Phineas Stevens, (1) Ebenezer Eastman and Jeremiah Clough in Behalf of themselves and the Inhabitants of Contoocook, Pennycook and Canterbury, in said Province, most humbly shews

That the said Places are frontiers and lay open and exposed unto the French and Indian Enemy. That they are not able to protect and defend themselves in Case of a Vigorous attack from the Enemy which they have Reason to fear may be the Case as soon as there Shall be Snow Sufficient to travel with Snow Shoes That unless they are protected, the Inhabitants Will be under a Necessity to break up and leave their habitations and so Consequently the frontier will be bro't nearer.

(1) He was the first minister of Boscawen. ED.

That your Petitioners humbly conceive it will be much better for the Province to have those Places Protected than to have them broke up. Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours to take this Petition under your wise Consideration and be pleased to Grant such a number of men for each of the before mentioned Places and for such time as to your Excellency and Honours shall seem meet and reasonable and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

PHINEAS STEVENS
EBENEZER EASTMAN
JEREMIAH CLOUGH

In Council Nov 12th 1747 read & sent down to the Honble House.
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Contoocook Petition for aid.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain General & Govonner in chief in and over his Majestie's Province of New Hampshire In New England

The Petetion of ye Inhabitants of a Plantation called Contoocook in ye sd. province of New Hampshire Humbly Showeth

That where as your Humble Petitenrs being Certtainly Informed of a Declaration of war Between ye King of England and France and Tharefore Looking upon our selves as Exposed contenualy to ye atacks of ye Indians who are subjects or allies to ye King of France and we would Beg Leave Humbly to Lay our Case before your Excellency

May it Pleas your Excelency we have Been at Great Expence and Labour in Bringing to ye settlements in ye plantation so far as thay are att this time by setteling a gospel minister erecting Houses subduing Lands and Bringing too a cosidable Quatity of Wilderness and in erecting proper Fortifications for Defence in case of an Indain war one of which was Built in ye year 1739 a building of considerable Expense to ye proprieters and of great conseqence to ye Inhabitants being 100 feet square and all this to advance ye Kingdom of Christ in the world and farther to enlarge and advance his majestie's Dominions in the american continent we have Like wise been att great expense and cost in erecting houses to Dwell in and in moving from our habitations the most of us into sd Fort in order for our security till proper help shall arive to us for want of which many persons have Removed and more are Removing from us to the Great Discouragement of those that tarry behind and all tho we might Defend our selves in our Fortification yet we cant support our selves becaus we have

none to gard us in our Busness and more over the commanding ofecer in the place has so far neclected the people that thay are very uneasy he never having caled them to Gether since he Recd his commission Refusing to Repair to the fort or to tak any care of it or the people in it never seting any watch or ward so that the Inhabitants are without a Leader yet they have consantly Keept a watch and ward in said fort or gareson Those with many others are the Difecultys we Labor under two many to be hear enumerated of which we Humbly Beg Redres of your Excelence in such way and maner as your Excelency in wisdom shall think Best and your Humble petisions as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

Contoocook June ye 5th 1744

Richard Flood
Richard Jackman
John Cowin
Joseph Easman
John Fowler
Andrew Bohonan
Jacob Flanders
Daniel Rolfe
William Emery
Moses Burbank
Samuel Emery.
Nathaniel Meloon
Ezekiel Flanders
Josiah Bishup
Jorge Jackman

Petition from Sundry Persons at Contoocook, Praying for military officers.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq

Honored S^r^ we the Subscribers Being Souldiers of Contoocook Do Humbly Desire your Excellency to Grant to Mr John Rollins of said town a Captins Commission and Likewise a Lef^t^ & Insins Commishon to two other men of said town whome he the said Rollins shall nominate the Performance whereof will Grately oblige your Humbel and Dutifull Sarvants

Contoocook November ye 29th 1743

Jacob Flanders
Ambrus Goold
Josiah Bishup
Enos Bishup
John Ellet
Thomas Cook
Benmore Dudy
Thomas Estman
Nathanel Danford
William Corser
Jesse Flanders
Thomas Manuel
William Dogiden
John Boin
Jacob Flanders Junior
John Fowler
Edward Fitchgaull
John Flanders
Moses Call
Sinkler Been
Daniel Rolf
Ezekiel Flanders
Richard Flood
John Johnson
Willan Peters
Andrew Bohonon
David Barker
William Danford
John Call
Nathanel Maloon
Saml Emmery
William Emmery

Contoocook Petition for a land Tax for support of a minister.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire To the Honorable His majestys Council & House of Representatives in General assembly Convened the twelfth day of November 1747

The Petition of the Proprietors of the Plantation calld Contoocook in the Province of New Hampshire most humbly Sheweth—That your Petitioners have had a minister of the Gospel Setled among them for about the space of seven years That notwithstanding the Difficulties arising from the War he hitherto has continued at said Plantation and would still continue there if supported and maintained by the Proprietors That for want of a Law to enable and Impower the said Proprietors to Raise money and Collect the same for the support of the ministers there The Burden thereof lyeth on a few Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency and Honours, That by a special act they may be authorized and Impowerd thereunto and that not only the Lands of the Residents but also of the non Resident Proprietors may be rated towards the support of the Ministry there for such time and in such Proportion as shall be judged reasonable by your Excellency and Honours and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

JOSEPH COFFIN, for and in behalf of the Committee of Said Proprietors.

Nov 13th 1747 In Council
read & concurred orderd to be sent down to the Honble House
Theodore Atkinson secy

Petition for Authority to Collect Taxes.

Province of
New Hampshire

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over said Province And To the Honble his Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General Court now Assembled

The Petition of us the subscribers Humbly Sheweth that the Proprietors of the Town of Boscawen have at their meeting from time to time Voted sums of money as they thought needful to carry on their publick affairs & particularly a sum of money to purchase a Right of land in said Town of Boscawen for the Encouragement of the settling a gospel Minister in the Town The Right have been purchased and given to the

Rev. Mr. Robie Morrill The money have been Assessed and such original Right was proportionately Taxed And now for want of Legal power to Collect said money some part of said proprietors (notwithstanding their forwardness in voteing said money) neglects or Refuses to pay their Equal part thereof & for want of said money's being Collected and paid in there is an action in Law Commenced against said proprietors in order to recover said money which is greatly to the prejudice and Damage of the rest of said proprietors whoe have paid their ful part of said money & tends greatly to hinder the propagation and Settlement of the Town Therefore We Humbly pray your Excellency & Honours to Invest said proprietors with ful power & legal authority to Collect what money hath already been or Shall hereafter be voted by said proprietors for their use by makeing sale of the Delinquent proprietors Land or in any other way your Excellency & Hon^{rs} in your great Wisdom Shall think best and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Dated Boscawen august 24th 1765

GEORGE JACKMAN Jun } Com^{te} for said
THOMAS CARTER } Proprietors.

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Sepr 9th 1767

The within Petition being Considered

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on their Petition the third day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the fifteenth day of October next and that the Petitioners at their own Cost Cause the Substance of ye Petition and order of Court to be printed three weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazett and Boston Gazett That any Person may appear and Shew Cause why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted

M. Weare Cl^{r}

In Council Septem^{r} 11th 1767 Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun Secy

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Feb. ye 19th 1768

The within Petition being Considered and appearing Reasonable and no Objection made against it

Voted That the Petitioners have liberty to Bring in a Bill to answer the Prayer of the Petition

M. Weare Cl^{r}

In Council Feb. 24th 1768

Read & concurred

Geor King Dep Sec.

Petition for a Justice of the Peace.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor & Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire

Whereas the Town of Boscawen in said Province has ever since it's first Settlement been destitute of a Commissionated Justice of the Peace, Such an officer being often needed (more especially since our Late favourable Incorporation by your Excellency) we the Subscribers & Inhabitants of said Town Pray Your Excellency to Commissionate Mr. George Jackman Jun[r] of said Town to be Justice of the Peace he having deserved well for several years Last past in the acceptable discharge of public Trust to him Committed And your Petitioners Shall as in Duty bound ever Pray

Boscawen January 29th 1766

Ezra Carter
Petitioner tho' not an Inhabitant of Boscawen
Moses Foster
Petitioner tho' not an Inhabitant of Boscawen
John Fowler
Thomas Carter
John Webster
John Flanders
William Emery
John Coser
Thomas Corser
Ephr[m] Woodbury
Jesse Flanders
Stephen Call

BOW.

[Bow was incorporated 20 May 1727, by New Hampshire.—Ed.]

Bow Remonstrance against Rumford Petition, 1749.

Province of
New Hamp

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esq Capt. General Governour & Comander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province afores[d] & To the Hon[ble] his Majtys Council for said Province

Humbly shew the Selectmen of the Township of Bow in the Province aforesaid in behalf of the said Town & the Proprietors thereof that they have been Informed that a Petition is Preferred to your Excelency & Hon[rs] Desiring therein that the Inhabitants on a Tract of Land called Pennycook may be Incorporated and Infranctized with Town Previledges &c & that the bounds mentioned in the said Petition (as your Petitioners are Informed) makes great Infringement on Land belonging to & within the Charter of the s[d] Town of Bow Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that the said Petition from the People at Pennycook may not be granted as asked for and that the

Proprietors of Bow may have opportunity to shew to your Excelency & Hon^rs The unreasonableness of the said Petition and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray &c

GEORGE VENSEYGUR (?) } Selectmen
ABRAM TILTON } of Bow.

februry ye 7th Day 1749–50

Perambulation of the town lines of Bow.

The purambleation of the Lines of the town of Bow as surveyed by me the Subscriber on or about the year 1749. I began at the Reputed Bound of the town of Chichester at the head of Notingham & from thence Run north west four miles to the head of Epsom then there marked a maple tree with the word Bow & Sundry Letters and from said tree which I Called the East Corner of said Bow I Run north west four miles to the west Corner of Chichester y^a north east one mile to Canterbury South corner then north west five miles on said Canterbury y^a South west nine miles which Runs to North west of Rattle Snake hill and most of the pond that Lays on the north west side of said hill and said Line Crosses Hopkinton Road so called and takes part of said town in then we marked a tree & Run South East five miles and marked a tree y^n one mile South west then South East four miles y^n north East nine miles to where we began

WALTER BRYANT

P. S. I Crossed marrimack River within two mile of Canterbury Line an found all the Inhabitance to the South of Canterbury & East Marrimack which are in Rumford to be in Bow

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Petition of the Town of Bow, 1753.

Province of } New Hamp }

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over sd Province and to the Honourable his Majesties Council & House of Representatives of the aforesd Province now convened in General assembly at Portsmouth in said Province as they stand Prorogued to the 30^tn Day of October A. D. 1753

We the Subscribers Humbly Beg leave to inform your Excellency and Honours that att a meeting of the Free holders and Inhabitants of the town of Bow in sd Province held the 25th Day of July last past persuant to a special act of this General Assembly for the calling sd meeting we were chosen Selectmen for sd. town for this currant year; And that since that time we have Received two Severall warrants from this Province Treasurer the first Dated May 30th 1753 and the other Dated the 26th Day of July 1753 by the first of which we are commanded in his Majesties name to assess the Sum of sixty Pounds on Said Inhabitants and by the other the sum of thirty

one Pounds four Shillings. And tho' we are Ready, (and that with cheerfulness) To obey Every order of government yet that we are at a loss as to the Boundaries of sd. Bow and consequently Dont Know who the Inhabitants are that we are to assess sd sums upon, that the Prop^{rs} of Bow in Running out the Bounds of sd town have as we conceive altered their Bounds several times, and further that one of those Gent^{n} that purchased Capt. Tufton Masons Right to the Lands in sd Province has given it as his opinion that sd Prop^{rs} have not as yet Run out the Bounds of sd town agreable to their charter But that their South East side line should be carried up about three quarters of a mile further toward the northwest and there is lately (by his order) a fence erected a long some miles near about sd place Designed (as we suppose) as a Division Fence between sd Bow and land yet claimed by s^{d} Purchasers and that on the other hand the Inhabitants of Penycook formerly Erected into a District by a special act of the General Assembly of this Province (Tho they object nothing against submitting to order of Government) Refuse to give us An Invoice of their Estates (That is such of them as we have asked for the same) aledging that they Dont lay in Bow and that this sd assembly did as good as declare in sd District act So that upon The whole we humbly conceive (unless the pleasure of this Court is first made known Relating to the aforesd. affairs) that should we proceed to assess the afores^{d} sums on such as we may have concei^{d} are the Inhabitants of sd Bow that many would Refuse to pay the Sums that should be so assessed on them and consequently that we should be thrown into so many Law suits as would in all probability Ruine us as to our Estates. Therefore we humbly crave that your Excellency & Honours would take the afores^{d} affairs under your wise and mature consideration and fix the Boundaries of sd Bow or otherwise give us such directions as you shall think proper and so submitting the whole affair to your Excellency & Honours to do as you in your great wisdom shall think fit not doubting that you will give us such directions as if followed by us we may obey the commands laid on us by this court without the lest detriment to ourselves

And your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray

Bow Octob^{r} ye 26th 1753

Moses Foster
John Coffin
Richard Easman
David Abbot
William Moor
} Selectmen

Prov. N. Hamp. Jany 10th 1754
In Council read & concurred & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble assembly
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of New Hamps } In the house of Representatives January the 12 1754

Voted that the Petitioners be heard on the within Petition on the Thirty first Day of January Instant if the General assembly be then Sitting if not then on the third Day of the Sitting of the General assembly next after the first Day of february next and that the Petitioners at their own Cost serve Moses Leavit Esqr Clerk of the Proprietors of Bow with a Copy of this Petition & of the Orders thereon that the sd Proprietors of Bow if they see Cause may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer of the Petition should not be Granted

Matthew Livermore Clerk

In Council July 12th 1754
read & concurred
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives feby 20th 1754

One of the Selectmen of Bow bringing This Petition into the House and suggesting that there had not been convenient opportunity to serve the Clerk of the Propriety of Bow with a Copy of the Petition &c. & praying that the Petitioners might have a further time appointed for being heard

Voted that the Petitioners be heard on their Petition on Friday next if the General assembly be then sitting if not then on the third day of the sitting of the General assembly next after & that they serve the Select men of the Proprietors of Bow with a Copy of this Petition & of the order thereon that ye sd Proprietors of Bow if they see Cause may appear & shew Cause if any they have why the prayer of the Petitionrs should not be granted

Matthew Livermore Clerk

Eodem Die,
In Council read & concurred
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Warrant from the Treasurer of the Province, 1753.

Province of New Hamps } To the selectmen of Bow in the Province of New Hampr for the Current year of our Lord (1753)

Pursuant to acts of General assembly of said Province pass'd in the Current year of his Majesties Reign, namely "To an act entitled an act for granting unto his most Excellent Majesty a Tax upon the Polls & Estates within this Province for raising the sum of twelve Thousand five hundred pounds new Tenor for the ends & purposes in this act mentioned and to an act entitled an act for a new proportion of the Province Tax, to each Town & Parish within this Province of New Hampr hereafter mentioned,"—

You are therefore in his Majesty's name hereby required by an equal & impartial assessment, to raise & levy upon the Polls & Estates (Rateable by law) within said Bow, the sum of sixty pounds in new tenor Bills of Credit, on this Government, and Committ a list thereof to the Constable or Constables of said Bow; Requiring & directing the said Constable or Constables to Collect & pay the said sum in said Bills of

Credit to the Treasurer of said Province for the time being, on, or before, the last day of December next (viz) 1753 You are also Required some time before the last day of December aforesaid, to make a Return, to the said Treasurer, of the name or names, of the said Constable, or Constables, to whom you shall committ said List & the sum or sums, by him or them, Respectively to be paid, as aforesaid.

Dated at Portsmouth, this thirtieth day of May, in the twenty sixth year of his Majesty's Reign Annoque Domini 1753

Geo. Jaffrey Treas^{r}

Warrant to the Selectmen of Bow, 1753

Province of }
New Hamp ^{r} }

To the Selectmen of Bow in the Province of New Hampshire:

Pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of said Province pass'd in the eighteenth year of his Majesty's Reign Entitl'd "An act for granting to his most Excellent Majesty the sum of thirteen thousand pounds for promoting an Expedition against Louisbourg, and for putting his Majesty's Province in the best posture of Defence in the present war—" You are therefore in his Majesty's name hereby required, to make an equal & impartial assessment on all Polls & Estates, Rateable by law, within said Bow, amounting to the sum of Thirty one pounds four shillings, Bills of Credit, Emitted by virtue of said act, and Committ a list thereof to the Constable or Constables of said Bow, requiring and Directing the said Constable or Constables, to Collect & Receive from the Inhabitants of said Bow their Respective assessments of said sum, the payment whereof may be made by said Inhabitants (if they see fit) in said bills of Credit, according to their Several Denominations, or in coined Silver at six shillings & eight pence pr ounce Troy weight of Sterling alloy, or in Coin'd Gold at four pounds eighteen shillings pr. ounce, or in the following sorts & species of Goods, being of the produce or manufactures of s^{d} Province at the price to each sort & specie herein Respectively affixed (namely)

Merchand^{a} Hemp per ct.	£2:15
Winter & first fare Isle Sable Cod fish per qtl	" 15
Barr Iron per cw^{t}	2 "
Barley pr. Bushell	" 4
Indian Corn pr Bushell	" 4
Beef per. lb.	" 0:3
Merch^{a} white pine Boards per M	2: 5
Beeswax pr. lb.	1:6
Pitch pr Barrell	1: 5
Bay berry wax pr. lb	1:3
Tar br Barrel	1
Flax per lb	1
Rye pr Bushell	: 5:
Wheat pr Bushell	: 6:
Peas per Bushell	: 8:
Pork per lb.	4
	£
Joyst pr M	2 (?)
White oak 2 inch plank pr M	8:0:0
Y^{e} same proportion for thick	
Turpentine per Barrell	1:10
Tannd sole leather per lb.	1:6

You are also to Require the said Constable or Constables to Collect

and pay the said Assessments unto the Treasurer of said Province for the time being, by the Twenty fifth day of December next ensuing the Date thereof and sometime before the said 25th day of December, make a Return to said Treasurer of the name or names of the Constable, or Constables, to whom you shall Committ a List of said assessments, and the sum or sums by him or them Respectively to be paid as aforesaid—

Dated at Portsmouth the 26th day of July in the Twenty seventh year of his Majesty's Reign annoque Domini 1753

Geo Jaffrey Treasr

Petition of the Agents of Bow for Loan of Money, 1754.

Province of New Hamp } July 25th 1754.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capn. Genll Governor & Comander in Chieff in & over his majestys Province of N. Hampshire afores^{d} The Honble his maj'ty Council & the General assembly of sd. Province

Humbly Sheweth Clemt March Daniel Pierce & Zebulon Giddings as agents to & in behalf of the Proprietors of the Township of Bow in said Province That the s^{d} Proprietors Comenced an action of ejectment against one Merrill for the recovery of about Eight acres of Land Lying within the said Township of Bow that the said action was carryd thro' the Law here that your memorialist recovered judgment at the Superior Court of Judicature here on the review That the said Merrill had complained to his maj'ty in Council of his haveing been deny^{d} an appeal from the said Judgement upon the review that his Maj'ty in Council was Pleased to order a hearing of the said action before him in Council sometime in the month of October next at which time The said Proprietors are order'd to appear &c and as the Getting of Sterling money either by way of Bills of Exchange or silver is at Present very Difficult if to be obtained from Private Persons they Humbly Pray that they may obtain a Vote of the Governour Council and assembly for Lending of one hundred Pounds Sterling money to Defend their Title to the said land and they are ready to give such security to repay The same as The General assembly shall Please to order or accept of and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray

Clemt March
Zebn Giddings
D. Peirce.
} Agents for Bow

Prov. N. Hamps.
In Council July 25th 1754
read & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble the Genl Assembly
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Vote for lending £100 Sterling to the Proprietors of Bow, 1754.

Province of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives July 25 1754

Whereas Clement March Esqr. Daniel Peirce Esqr and Mr. Zebulon Giddings as agents for the Proprietors of Bow have Petitioned the Gen. assembly of this Province to lend them the sum of one hundred Pounds Sterling money to enable them to carry on a suit before his Majesty in Council, now depending there between one Merrill and the s[d] Proprietors and signifyd in their Petition that they are ready to give such security for the Repayment thereof as the Gen[al] assembly shall please to order Therefore Voted That Theodore Atkinson Richard Wibird and Meshech Weare Esqs and Mr. Henry Sherburne Junr. be and hereby are appointed a Committee they or the major Part of them to draw a Bill in favour of the s[d] Petitioners on John Thomlinson Esqr. agent for this Province at the Court of Great Britain for the sum of one hundred Pounds Sterling of the Interest in the hands of the sd. John Thomlinson Esqr belonging to this Government and that the s[d] Clement March Daniel Pierce and Zebulon Giddings Give security unto the s[d] Committee for the payment of the sum of three hundred pounds Bills of credit new Ten[r] on this Province within one year from the date of sd Bill to be by them drawn as afores[d] with six pr. cent Interest in like Bills and that the sd. Committee put the s[d] Principal and Interest when rec'd into the Treasury of this Province (taking a Receipt for the same) and that the same be burnt to ashes in the face of the Gen[l] assembly in order to sink so much of the Bills of Credit of this Province, emitted for carrying on y[e] Intended Expedition against Canada

Matthew Livermore Clerk

In Council July 25th 1754
The foregoing vote read & concurred
Theodore Atkinson Secy

In Council July 25[t] Assented to

B. Wentworth.

An act relating to Bow.

Province of New Hampshire } Anno Regni Regis Georgii Secundi Magnæ Britainæ Franciæ et Hiberniæ Vicessimo nono.

An Act For assessing and Collecting the Province Tax due from the Town of Bow within said Province

Whereas the General Assembly of this Province have Proportioned the Province Tax for the several Towns Districts and Parishes in this Province to pay as was thought most Just and Reasonable into the Province Treasury for several years past and have Directed the Province Treasurer from time to time to Issue his warrants Directed to the Selectmen of the said Towns, Districts & Parishes to Assess their respective Towns, Districts and Parishes according to said act and the Laws and usage of this Province in such Cases and the said Selectmen to make out warrants to the Constables of such Towns Districts and Parishes to Collect the same as usual in the Province & pay the same into the Province Treasury to answer the several ends & purposes for which the said Taxes were Granted—But notwithstanding the care of the General Assembly in Providing a Supply for the Treasury in Season The Town

of Bow in said Province have endeavoured to prevent the assessing and Collecting the Taxes aforesaid by neglecting or refusing duely to Elect Select men Assessors & Constables or Collectors to assess and collect their proportion of the Province Taxes aforesaid and when the General assembly made a special act for calling a Town meeting and choosing Town officers in said Town of Bow in the year 1755 The said Town in Contempt of the Law and in Defiance of the Government Refused to meet at the time and place appointed by authority as aforesaid; By means whereof No officers were chosen and no Taxes are assessed in said Town of Bow nor have been for several years past and the Treasury of the Province Destitute of that just proportion of the Taxes which the said Town of Bow ought to pay into the Province Treasury:—— For Remedy whereof and for the speedy assessing Collecting and paying into the Public Treasury of said Province the sum and sums which the said Town of Bow ought to pay into the same;

Be it enacted By his Excellency the Governour Council and Assembly That Ezra Carter & Moses Foster Esqrs and John Chandler Gentleman all of said Bow they or the Major part of them Be assessors to assess the Polls and Estates within the said Town of Bow as the Bounds and Limits of said Township were Run by Walter Bryant Surveyor in the year 1749 in a just and equal Proportion Agreeable to ye Laws & usage of this Province, The sum of Five Hundred and eighty Pounds and sixteen Shillings New Tenor Bills of Public Credit of this Province being the sum ordered to be paid by them into the said Treasury and in order to the said assessors obtaining the Best account of the Polls and Estates in said Town of Bow & to their making a Just proportion according to their Best skill and Judgment—The said assessors or the major part of them are hereby directed to Post up Notifications in some public place or places within the said Town of Bow Ten days before they proceed to make the Said assessment that all persons may have opportunity (if they think fit) to give a True list or Inventory of their Polls and Rateable estate within said Town to said assessors which if they or any of them shall neglect or refuse to do within that time the said assessors or major Part of them are hereby Impowered and directed to doom such Person or Persons in such sum and sums as the said assessors or major part of them shall Judge they ought to pay as their Proportion of the said Tax & of the Cost arising in about and concerning the assessing Collecting & Paying the Same which the said assessors or major part of them are hereby Directed and impowered to assess in Proportion to and with the said Tax or assessment and the said assessors are hereby Directed to be sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their office & Speedily to proceed in and make the said Tax or assessment with a Sufficient overplus for costs and abatements and Deliver Lists of said Rates or Tax with proper warrants to the Collectors hereafter named within this act and certifie the sums in each respective list to ye Treasurer of said Province within two months next ensuing and the said assessors in their warrants are to Direct the said Collectors to Collect and pay in unto the Province Treasurer the aforesaid Sum of five hundred and Eighty Pounds & Sixteen Shillings New Tenor Bills of said Province at or before the Last day of December next and account with the said assessors for y^s^ overplus (if any be) and the said assessors to report their doings herein to the Genl Assembly as soon as may be

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That Timothy Walker and John Noyes both of said Town of Bow shall be and hereby are appointed the Collectors of said Tax or assessment and that they Collect and pay in the sum & sums in their respective lists in time and manner aforesaid on Penalty of forfeiting and paying into the Province Treasury for his Majesty's use the sum in their respective lists men-

tioned And in collecting the same & any part thereof The said Collectors are hereby Authorized to use and exercise all ye Powers and Authoritys in the Law Given to Constables in this Province for their Collecting ye Publick Taxes and if any of said Collectors meet with any opposition in ye executing their office or if the persons rated or any of them shall secreet their Goods and chattels or use any means to prevent the Collecting of this Tax in manner aforesaid it shall be Lawfull for such Collectors respectively to sue the person or Persons so refusing before any Justice of the Peace in Said Province and any Justice of the Peace shall & may hear & Determine the same give Judgm^t^ therein & award Execution thereon in which no *essoin* Protection or wager of Law shall be allowed & no other Evidence Necessary than the list of rates under the hands of said assessors or major part of them to Convict & ye oath of ye Collector that the same has been Demanded four days & not paid and which Demand may be made by asking the same of the Person or Leaving an acco't of the sum of each respective Persons rate in such list at the usual place of the Abode of ye Person rated four Days before any Distress or Suit made for ye same in manner aforesaid

And be it further enacted by the Authority afosesaid that if the said assessors shall neglect or refuse to Do their Duty in making said Rate or Tax and refusing their acc't of the same as aforesaid Thet Province Treasurer is hereby authorized required and Directed to issue his Warrant of Distress Directed to The Sheriff of said Province his under Sheriff or deputy to Levy said sum of Five hundred and eighty Pounds sixteen shillings upon the Goods, Chattels or Lands of said assessors & in want thereof on their bodies & ye Sheriff under Sheriff or Deputy is hereby authorized Impowered and directed to execute the same accordingly and pay ye said sums into the Treasury

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any Person giving in to ye said Assessors a list or Inventory of their rateable Polls or Estates shall be guilty in the Judgement of the said Assessors or Major part of them of giving in a false list or Inventory of the Rateable Polls & Estate the said Assessors or Major part of them are hereby Impowered and Directed to add to the Rate of Such Person as a fine not exceeding twenty shillings to be collected with said Rate or Tax for and towards Defraying ye charges attending the same which fine shall be over and above what the said assessors shall think reasonable to Doom such persons as their Proportion to said Rates and for the service of the said assessors in Doing their Duty as in this act is required they & Each of them, shall be entitled to have and receive out of what they shall so assess the sum of seven Pounds & Ten shillings New Tenor each of them and each of the said Collectors to be allowed out of said assessment by them to be Collected the sum of fifteen Pounds New Tenor each of them for such their Service; and to prevent any Inconveniency by said Town of Bow their not choosing Town officers for several years past, Be it enacted, by the authority aforesaid that the said assessors or major part of them are hereby Impowered and Directed to Notifie the Free holders and Inhabitants of said Town of Bow Qualified according to Law to Vote in Town affairs to meet at such time and place in said Town of Bow as they shall order and direct some time in ye month of March next in the year 1756 to choose selectmen Constables & all other Town officers & to pass any vote or votes as they Lawfully might at any town meeting regularly warned and their votes acts & choice of officers Shall be as good & effectual in Law to all intents & purposes as if they had not neglected to choose officers in times past.

Pursuant to an act of the Gen^{al} Court of the Province of New Hamp^{r} I the Subscriber Warned a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Bow for the choice of Town Officers and attended the same as Moderator at the Place and time appointed for said meeting which was ye 22d of April last but there was but one Inhabitant of said Bow that attended the Place and time of meeting by which means no Town Officers are chosen for the present year to assess the said Inhabitants their proportion to the Province Tax agreeable to Law

JON^{a} LOVEWELL

Portsmouth May ye 25th 1755.

Petition for a new survey of Lots.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Govr & Commander in Chiefe in & over his majes^{s} Prov. of New Hamp The Hon^{le} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives for sd Prov. in Genl Assembly convened Jan. the first day 1757

The Humble Petition of Daniel Pierce Esqr Thos Wiggin & Daniel Marston Gent^{n} Will^{lm} Pottle Blacksmith & Benjn Norris Yeoman as a Committee of the Prop^{rs} of ye Town of Bow in s^{d} Province Shews That there are many Persons who claim a Right to Lands in Said Township by Titles not derived from s^{d} Proprietors & some who have made considerable Improvements there with whom the said Proprietors have had many expensive Suits at Law which has much impeded the settlement of said Township—That many of the said claimers & settlers particularly those who hold under the Proprietors of Suncook (so called) are desirous (as they say) of an accommodation & settlement of these Disputes & to become not only Inhabitants of said Bow but to hold their Title under that of s^{d} Bow & no more to call it into Question which the Proprietors of Bow are as desirous to have effected & have taken many steps to that Purpose being sensible that these Disputes will finally prove more detrimental to themselves if ended by ye Law tho' in their Favour than any reasonable Concessions That notwithstanding the amicable & peaceable Dispositions of ye Parties concern'd there are Impediments which prevent the good effects that might be expected to result from such a temper which however willing they are not able to remove which your Petitioners beg Leave shortly to represent. That the Home Lots or first Division in s^{d} Township of Bow which were laid out for forty acres each by some mistake fall short as to some of them which contain not much more than half that Quantity and ye lots laid out by the Prop^{rs} of Suncook run across these oblikely so that one of those interferes with several of these in many Places That by this means one

Person has to agree with several for his particular Lot & some of those are minors with whom no valid agreement can be made & the Proprietors of Bow are willing those who have made any considerable Improvements there (tho' they have done it in Judgment of Law in their own wrong) should enjoy the Fruit of their Labour That quieting the Possessors (who have improved as afores[d]) on equitable Terms will tend much to promote the Settlement of said Township raise y[e] Value of of the Land & save the great Expense which inevitably attends Contention which desirable end cannot be obtained by any way that your Petitioners can discover unless the laying out of some of sd. Home Lots by the Prop[rs] of Bow should be annulld & vacated which seems to be necessary to do Justice to some of the owners by reason of the mistake aforesaid as well as for the other Ends before proposed

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that the laying out of the said Lots the Return & Record thereof as done by y[e] said Proprietors of Bow (or so many of them as may be necessary for y[e] ends aforesaid) may be entirely annulled, & vacated that your Petitioners or some others may be enabled to lay out other unimproved Lands in said Township sufficient to be a just equivalent to the owners of s[d] Home Lots under the said Proprietors That the Land so laid out for said Home Lots may be taken, deemed & adjudged as common Land so far as relates to them or those claiming under them that they may be authorized to dispose thereof as they might have done if it had not been by them laid out as aforesaid in order for the proposed accommodation & agreement or so far as is Necessary to answer y[e] desirable Ends proposed and that your Petitioners may have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly and they shall as in Duty bound ever pray &c

BENJ[a] NORRIS D. PIERCE
WILLIAM POTTLE THOMAS WIGGIN
DANIEL MARSTON.

In Council July 6, 1757
read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon[ble] Assembly
Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Jan 7, 1757.
New Hamps } The within Petition being Read

Ordered that the Petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the Sitting of the Gen[al] Assembly next after the first Day of February Next & That the Petitioners at their own Cost & Charge cause the substance of this Petition with this order of court thereon to be published in the New Hamp[r] Gazette two weeks successively that any Person or Persons may appear at said Hearing & shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred
Theodore Atkinson Sec.

Province of }
New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Feb 3d 1757

This petition being read & its appearing that the order of Court had been Comply'd with, No person appearing against said Petition, & Bow Committee the petitioners being fully heard thereon therefore

Voted That the prayer of the petition be granted & that the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurred
R. Wibbird Secy.

Inventory of Bow and Canterbury 1761.

An Invoice of the Polls, Stocks and improved Lands in the Township of Bow, (1) taken by us the Subscribers according to the best of our knowledge

Polls	154	Cattle 3 years old	85
Houses	91	Do 2 years old	90
Planting Ground	341 acres	Do 1 Year old	103
Mowing Land	498 acres	Horses	77
Orcharding	16 acres	Do 3 years old	12
Oxen	160	Do 2 years old	13
Cows	222	Do 1 year old	10
		Pasture Land	150 acres
Negroes	6		

6 mills yearly income £125

Ezekiel Morrill } Selectmen
Thomas Clough } for Canterbury

(1) The township of Bow, at this time, included a large part of Rumford. See Hist. of Concord, pp. 219, 220.—Ed.

An Invoice of the Polls, Stocks and improved Lands in the Township of Canterbury taken by us the Subscribers according to the best of our knowledge.

Polls	57	Cattle 3 years old	22
Houses	33	Do 2 years old	29
Planting Land	62 acres	Do 1 year old	37
Mowing Land	189 Do	Horses	35
Orchard Land	4 Do	Do 3 years old	
Pasture Land	146	Do 2 years old	4
Oxen	52	Do 1 year old	6
Cows	98		

One Negro 2 Mills yearly income £20

Ezekiel Morrill } Selectmen
Thomas Clough } for
Ephraim Hackett } Canterbury

Bow		*Canterbury*	
Polls	£2770	Polls	£1026
Land	502 : 10	Land	200 : 10
Houses	231	Horses	105
Oxen	480	Oxen	156
Cows	444	Cows	196
3 yr old	145 : 10	3 yr old	33
2 Do	103	2 Do	33

Bow.		*Canterbury.*	
1 Do	56 : 10	1 Do	21 : 10
Slaves	96	Slaves	16
	4828 : 10		1787
	1000 Doom		300 Doom
	£5828 : 10		£2087

Petition of Ed^wd Russel & others.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief In and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, To the Honble his Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said Province, Convened in General Assembly June 12th 1764

The Petition of Edward Russell, Solomon Heath and Thomas Chandler all of Bow in said Province Humbly Sheweth That the Petitioners have lately Settled themselves on some of the Uncultivated Land in said Town of Bow where they still remain Hardly able to support themselves and Families

That the Petitioners understand there is a Very Great Province Tax laid on the Inhabitants of Said Town of Bow the last year, this Present year & the next year for their Delinquency for the space of seven or Eight years last past a Proportion of which Tax if Laid on the Petitioners would almost Ruin them and oblige them to Quit their Said Settlements. Wherefore the said Petitioners Humbly pray your Excell'y & Hon^rs to take their Circumstances under Consideration and Relieve them from paying any Proportion of the said Tax In such manner as Your Excell'y & Hon^rs shall in your Great Wisdom & Clemency see fit. And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

Edwd Russell for Himself
and Behalf of ye Rest

Province of } In Council June 14th 1764
New Hamp } Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Honble House
T. Atkinson Jun Secy

Province of } In the house of Representatives June 14th 1764
New Hamps } Upon Read'g the within petition

Voted that the petitioners be heard thereon the Second Day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly after the first day of Aug. next & that the petitioners at their own Cost Serve the selectmen of Pembrook Ezra Carter Esqr & Capt. Jno Chandler of said Bow who are by Act appointed to make the Assessments for the Tax Referred to in the within petition with a Copy of this petition & order of Court thereon that they may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted and further it is Resolved that the Collectors appointed

for Collecting said Tax shall forbear Collecting the proportion assessed on the within Petitioners untill the time herein appointed for a hearing

H. Sherburne Speaker

In Council June 15, 1764 read & concurred

T. Atkinson Jun Secy.

Province of New Hamps } In the house of Representatives Jan ye 9, 1765, A. M. This petition being Read

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted & that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Jany 10 1765
Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun Secy.

Petition of Joseph Baker & Philip Eastman.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr governor and Commander in Chief in & over his majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Honble his majestys Council and house of Representatives for said Province in general Assembly Conven'd the First Day of May A. d. 1764.

The Humble Petition of Joseph Baker & Philip Eastman Sence it has Pleas'd your Honours to Appoint us the Subscribers to Collect the Tax that was Appointed for the Inhabitants of Bow to Pay into The Treasury we would inform your Honours That we Have Taken the utmost Care to Collect the money but we have not as yet Collected The whole and we would Beg your Patience a Little while Longer and we will assure your Honours that we will Do our utmost Endeavor to to fulfill your command, furthermore we would Inform your Honours that there is within the Lines of Rumford about Twenty Poles who say that They are without Esqr Bryent's Line that he Ran in the year forty Nine & for that Reason They Refused to give in their Envoises Gentlemen we Conceive that we Shall be very much hurt By Neglecting our own Business and we should be very glad if your Honours would Take it into your wise Consideration and order the Assessors to Put them into our Lists and Bestow it upon us or help us in any other way which your honours in your grate wisdom Shall Think Best and your Petitioners Shall Ever Pray

Joseph Baker
Philip Eastman.

Prov. of New Hamps
May 2d 1764.
read & sent down to the Honble Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Petition of Selectmen of Bow to be eas'd from being Rated with Concord, Aug 28, 1767.

To His Excelency John Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General Governor and Commander In Chief In and over His majes[ties] Council and House of Representatives Convened in General Assembly

The Petition of the Selectmen of Bow in Behalf of themselves and Inhabitants of s[d] Bow Exclusive of such as are Set of into Parishes; Humbly Sheweth that we Have Town officers agreeable to Bow Charter and are Ready and willing to assess Collect and Pay our Proportion of Publick Charges with other Towns In this Province your Petitioners Have Been and are Now Greatly abused by being Rated with Concord for Their Select men are y[e] major Part of the assessors and they make the Rate as they see fitt.

Wherefore the sd. Petitioners Humbly and Earnestly Prays your Excelency and Honours to take their Distressed Carcomstances under Consideration and Releave Them From Being Rated any Longer with Concord in Such manner as your Excelency and Honours Shall in your Great wisdom and Clemency see Fitt and Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

SAMUEL ROGERS
SAMUEL WELCH
EPHRAIM MOONY
} Select men of Bow

In Council August 28th 1767
Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon[ble] House
T. Atkinson Jun. Secy

BRENTWOOD.

[Brentwood, formerly part of Exeter, was incorporated 26 June, 1742. For various other Papers relating to this Town, see those under Exeter. ED.]

Names of persons in Brentwood desiring a Parish.

Brintwood, July 11, 1743.

We the Subscribers Do hereby signifie that we Realy Expected and also Desired to stand by the Act of the General Court in making of us a Parish But yet we perceive that the hon[ble] Corte have bin Enformed by Sundry Parsons that the major Part of the Parish are Dissatisfy'd in what is done in that afair this is to Shew it is not so.

John Roberds
Joseph Leivett
Thomas Gorden
John Marsh
Robe'rd Young
Edward Stevens
Daniel Giles
Israel Smith
John Been
Nicholas Gorden
John Folsham
Ithial Smith
Moses Fifield
David Bean
Samuel Roberds
Samuel Jones
Charles Young
Benj[a] Vesey
Jeremiah Bean
Biley Harvey
John Giles
Benj[a] Roberds
John Roberds
David Smith
Jonathan Smith
John Smith
Josiah Moody
Zackiriah Jude (?)
Nath[el] Folsham
James Dudley jun
Joseph Gose
Benj[a] Scribner
Ebenezer Hutchison
Elisha Sanborn
James Young
Benj[a] Fifield
Bridget Smith
Thomas Scritchet
Abraham Smith
Gorg Roberds
James Dudley
Joel Judkins
Roberd Brown
Joseph Atkinson
Jacob Smith
Jabez Clough
James Gloyd
Nicholas Dollof
Alexander Roberds
William Granby (?)
Daniel Sanborn
Jon[a] Roberson
William Smith
Jon[a] Tailer
Nath[l] Prescott
Jon[a] Cram
Jeremiah Row
Jedediah Prescott
James Robenson
Daniel Tilton
John James
Joseph Giles
Henery Marsh
Job Kenistone
John Mudgit.

Petition of the inhab[ts] of the North part of Brentwood about a meeting-house.

To his Excell'y Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Gov[r] & Comand [r]in Chief in & over his Maj[ts] Province of New Hampshire And to the Hon[ble] his Maj[ties] Council, & Representatives In Gen[ll] Court assembled

We the Subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Northerly part of the parish of Brintwood in the Province aforesaid Do Humbly crave leave of y[r] Excell'y & hon[rs] to lay this our humble Remonstrance of our distressed circumstances before your Excell'y & Hon[rs] as follows viz.

Many of us Living four or five Miles Distant from Exeter meeting House, have attended the Publick Worship of God at that House for many years past, with great Difficulty, & our Familys Encreasing made it much more difficult especially in the Winter Spring and fall of the yeare Wherefore About eight

years ago we with Several of the Southerly part of said Parish Erected a House for the Publick Worship of God in the most suitable place as they then tho't and we now do think to Carry on the Publick Worship in And accordingly at our own charge have Carryed on the Same in the Winter, Spring & fall of the yeare ever since as we had for four years, or thereabouts before Erecting said House carryd on the Publick Worship in a Private House Standing neare our Publick Meeting House

And about last February was twelve month, the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Southerly part of Brintwood aforesaid Petitioned the Town of Exeter aforesaid to be set off as a Parish contrary to the will & desire of most of us, & said Town of Exeter Granted their said Petition, notwithstanding many of us Disented therefrom, And their said Petition being Granted, they afterwards applyed to your Excell'y & Hon^{rs} for a Charter for said Parish, which was granted them Contrary to our Desier, and greatly to our hurt. And we also having Earnestly Petitioned your Excell'y & Hon^{rs} that we might be permitted to Continue to Carry on the Publick Worship of God in our said House, and to be set off by such Boundaries as your Excelly & Hon^{rs} Should think meet, & to be Exempted from all Charge towards the meeting and ministry in the Southerly p^{t} of Said Parish &c, as by our Petition lying before y^{r} Excelly & Hon^{rs} in your Honb^{le} Court may appear. Which Petition the Honble House of Representatives have seen meet to Dismiss And also your Excell'y & Hon^{rs} having appointed a Comittee of four Gen^{t} two out of Each House to Prefix the place where the meeting House ought to Stand, Three of said Gen^{t} have been and made Return but is accounted voyd by your Exell'y & Hon^{rs} For that the Comitee did not all Joyn in their Return & for which Reason our Petition was also Dismist. Wherefore our case at present Seems very hard & Difficult, we having been at such cost to Erect our said House and to maintain Preaching in it hitherto & the Minister also who hath hitherto preached to us being at our Earnest desire willing to Continue with us in the Ministry. If your Excelly & Hon^{rs} will in your great Wisdome take this our Remonstrance of our Difficult Circumstances in our Present Meeting House not being Established & our aforesaid Petition not being Granted & the great Charges and Difficulties we hitherto have and still do Labour under, under your Excelly & Hon^{rs} wise Consideration & be pleased to grant us Relief herein as in your Great Wisdom you shall se meet And as in Duty Bound we your Excellys & Hon^{rs} most obedient Humble servants shall ever Pray &c

Dated at Brintwood June 27th Anno Dom 1743.

Andrew Gillman	John George
Wilson	Edwd Thing
Edwd Colcord	Danl Quimby
Nich^{o} Dudley	Sarrah Gorden
Antipas Gilman	John Leavit
Tim^{o} Leavitt	James Stephens
Benj^{a} Gillman	Joseph Hoit
Saml Edgerly	Joshua Bean
Saml Dudley	John Mogridge
Jon^{a} Thing	John Hilton
Stephen Levit	Ithiel Clifford
Jonsia Thing	Sam^{n} Smith
Jon^{a} Wadley	Danl Wormal
Nich^{o} Dudley Junr	Marthy Bean
Jerem^{h} Bean	Haley Stephens
John Dudley	Jer^{m} Gillman Junr

In the House of Representatives July 1st 1743. The within Petition read & considered on & Voted That Eleazer Russell Esqr Mark Langdon Gen^{t} & Noah Barker of Stratham be a Committee to Joyn Such as the Honble the Council shall app^{t} to go to the Parish of Brentwood, and view the Situation of said parish and see whether it will be most convenient for the Inhabitants thereof to be Divided into two Parishes, or whether the whole shall meet at the meeting House already Built for some Limitted time, or to Conclude upon some other method that they shall think to be for the best good of the said P's'h. In order for their being Settled in Peace, and that they make Report to the Gen" ass^{m} the third day of the Sitting of the Gen" Ass^{m} at their next Sessions and that the Petitioners be at the charge of the Comittee and that the Petitioners Serve the Select men of Brentwood with a Copy of this Petition & Votes, that they may Notife the Parish of these proceedings and that those that will *dispute?* what is acted may appear at the day above said.

James Jeffry Cle^{r} Ass^{m}

Eod^{m} Die In Council Read and Concurr'd & the above said Comittee hereby Established & Impowered for the End above said

Eod^{m} Die Assented to B. WENTWORTH Theodore AtkinsonSecy.

Copia Examined Theo^{d} Atkinson Secy.

Province of Hamp^{r} Sep. 22^{d} 1743.

Pursuant to the within order we have been to the Parish of Brentwood & viewed the same, & Considered the Circumstances thereof & think it best to Continue them at the old meeting House for the tearm of four years.

ELEAZER RUSSELL
MARK LANGDON
NOAH BARKER

In the House of Representatives 7^{br} the 23^{d} 1743

The above Return read And Voted That the Return be accepted, and that they Continue at the old Meeting House for the Space of four years and at the Expiration thereof, The Major Part of the legal Voters in said parish at that time Shall set the Meeting House for Publick Worship where they think Proper.

James Jeffry Cl^{r} Ass^{m}.

In the House of Representatives Decem^{r} 3^{d} 1743.

Voted That this Petition and all the Proceedings thereon be Dismissed.

James Jeffry Cl^{r} Ass^{m}

Petition of Elisha Sanborn about Brentwood 1745

To the Honb^le the House of Representatives for the Province of New Hampshire in General assembly conven'd April 2^d 1745:

The Petition of Elisha Sanborne of the Parish of Brintwood In Said Province Yeoman as agent for said Parish Humbly Shews

That the Said Parish was made & Incorporated by an act of the Genl Assembly made & passed in ye Sixteenth Year of His Majestys Reign by Metes & Bounds Set forth in said act being before part of the old Parish or Town of Exeter. That Since the Said Parish was so Incorporated His Excellency the Governor has been pleased (by & with the advice of the Council) to grant a Charter for Erecting and Incorporating part of the afores^d parish of Brintwood Into another Parish by the name of Keeneborough whereby great part of the Inhabitants of Brintwood Conceive themselves Discharged from paying Taxes & Doing any other Duty within the Parish of Brintwood & Claim the powers authoritys & Priviledges of a Parish within the Limits given by the said Charter the consequence of which is many persons are doubly tax'd & great Debates & strifes have & are likely to arise. That the Parishioners of Brintwood apprehend that not only their powers authoritys & priviledges are made null if the said Charter be good, but the act of Incorporation aforesaid is also Defeated & Superseeded which greatly affects the Rights & Priviledges of this House & in them all the King's subjects in this Province That the said Parishioners foresee a wide Field of Law opening before them hereby (one of their Number having been already Imprisoned for Rates made in Consequence of the afores^d Charter) which they Should be glad to avoid if it could be without giving up their Just Rights Wherefore your Petitioner in behalf of his principals prays the advisement of this Honble House in the premises that some scheme may be Pursued In Conjunction with the other Branches of the Legislature as may settle these Disputes (but just beginning) upon such a foundation as is agreeable to the Constitution & on which a lasting peace may be built & Your Petitioner In behalf of his Constituents Shall Ever pray &c

ELISHA SANBORN.

Remonstrance against Keenborough Patent.

Province of N. Hamp^s

To His Exc^ly The Govr and the Honble the Council May it Please your Ex & Honors

On the 2^d Day of the last month Elisha Sanborn of ye par-

ish of Brentwood in s[d] prov. Yeoman as agent for said Parish represented to this House in way of Petition that the said Parish &c (here recite the Petition at large) * * * *

Which Petition of the said Elisha in Part above recited we have taken into our most mature Consideration together with authenticated copys of the said act and Charter mentioned in said Petition with such other Evidence as the Petitioner has thought fit to lay before this House in support thereof, by which it manifestly appears to us, that there was an act or Law made and past by the Gov[r] Council and represen[tve] of this Province dated the day of 17 by which a Part of the Town of Exeter was incorporated into a Parish named of Brintwood by metes and Bounds, and that the Inhabitants within said Bounds, were *to duty Parish Duty*, ? and receive parish privileges in said Brentwood, and were exonerated from parish Duty in the Parishes whereto they belonged before the Date of said Law: That Discontent soon arose among the Parishioners of s[d] Brentwood about the Place of fixing their meeting House, which occasioned a new Petition to the Governor Council and Gen. assembly dated the day of 17 , for a minor Part of said Parishioners prayer, to have the said Parish divided into two Parishes but that which was offered in support thereof appearing frivolous to the General assembly, the said Petition was by them ordered to be dismissed: That afterwards (viz) on the day of 17 The discontented Party petitioned anew to His Exc[ly] and Council regardless of the General assembly (one Branch of the Legislature) praying again for a Division of s[d] Brentwood into Two Parishes, which your Ex. and Council (without the Gen[l] assembly) were pleased to take Cognizance of, and on the day of 17 to grant a Charter under the Province Seal to the said Petitioners, incorporating another Parish named Keenborough by metes and Bounds and exonerating the Inhabitants of said Keenborough from their Parish Duty in Brentwood which they were obliged to do and perform there by Law, which charter so far This House looks upon as an attempt to abrogate and supersede a Law in Part, and thereby an open Usurpation of a Power appertaining to the Gen assy in Conjunction with the Gov[r] and Coun. and a manifest invasion of the Just rights and Privileges of the People whom we represent, and an Infringem't on the rights of the Parishioners of Brentwood, and an oppression of them in particular, which we think ourselves obliged to take notice of in Duty to His Majesty, in faithfulness to our Constituents and in Justice & Honour to ourselves and to remonstrate against it. We do therefore earnestly request your Ex[cy] and Honours, seriously to reconsider this matter, and to recall the Keenborough Grant

and thereby put an end to the Strifes already commenced, and a stop to others ready to break out in consequence thereof and also to save this House the Trouble of saying or acting further on upon it, for as we are the representatives of a free protestant People and as such the Guardians of their Privileges, we esteem ourselves obliged to make a stand agst every attempt made to deprive them of their Just Rights, and particularly we shall think ourselves inexcusable in case your Ex^{l}^{es} and Hon^{rs} should not relieve us if we should not apply to His most Excellent majesty who is graciously pleased to esteem his own Prerogatives and his Subjects Privileges equally dear to him for a remedy, and we esteem ourselves more especially obliged to take this step (if your Ex & Hon^{rs} don't prevent it) as it is not the first Instance wherein your Excellency has attempted to invade our rights Witness your Endeavours to get the provincial Records of Deeds into your Hands, or at least to have the Disposal of them, which are no other than the Peoples Evidences of their Titles to their Land Estates and therefore according to the rules of common sense and Reason, ought to be in their own several keepings if it could be, but as it can't they ought to be disposed of by them who are the Proprietors of their Evidences as well as of their Estates. Another Instance was your Excellency's Endeavor to augment the number of members of this House by your own mear arbitrary Power, without any Law enabling you so to, or any colour of authority from His majesty for your so doing that was ever made known to us, to which may be added your Excellency's causing a number of men to scout on ye west side of merrimack River last summer before A Grant was made for their Pay and Subsistance, and which we humbly apprehend your Excellency could not rationally expect ever would be and the scouters remain to this Day without wages and those that subsisted them without their pay for it whether this is not oppressive we leave to the wisest Judges to determine. Proceedings of this nature will cast no blame on us, but it gives us Concern, that any office must bear the Records of such Conduct were it possible for us to entertain so dishon^{ble} a Thought as that a Vote could be past at the Council Board, and the Voters not be fully apprised of your directions without maturely deliberating on the materials it was built with we should have at Once concluded, that the Vote for Keenborough Charter was such an one. May it please y^{r} Ex and Hon^{rs} we crave Leave to repeat our request to you for a reconsideration of the Keenborough affair and that you will be pleased to do what is just and right therein to quiet the minds of the People to stay the Strifes already begun and to prevent other Divisions that are like to arise—we are Zealously concerned that Love and Peace

may be cultivated in the Province and a Harmony in the administration, that the Prerogative may always rest secure that the Infractions made on our Privileges may be healed, and that they may ever hereafter remain safe and inviolate.

Charter of Keenborough.

Province of } George the Second by the grace of God of Great Britain
New Hamps } France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c.

To all to whom these Presents Shall come Greeting For as much as it hath been Represented to us by Capt. Andrew Gilman and other Inhabitants of the parish of Brentwood that great disorders have arisen in said Parish Respecting their parish affairs in general, And that all proposals hitherto attempted have proved ineffectual to Restore peace and good Order amongst them Wherefore, the said Capt. Andrew Gilman in behalf of himself and others Humbly Prays That a new parish may be erected in said Parish of Brentwood And to the end that peace and good Order may be Established Know ye therefore of our Especial Grace certaine Knowledge & meer motion By & with the advice of our Trusty & well beloved Benning Wentworth Esqr our Capt General Governor and Commander in chief of our Province of New Hampshire in New England and of our council of said Province have Incorporated, ordained declared and appointed And by these presents for us our Heirs & Successors Do Incorporate ordain declare and appoint out of the Parish of Brentwood all that Tract or parcel of Land Situate lying & Being in ye Parish of Brentwood in our Province of New Hamp^r^ aforesaid containing by admessurement twelve thousand five hundred Ninety five acker & one Quarter of an acre according to a plan & Survey made by order of our Said Governor by George Mitchel Esqr and Capt Dudley Odlin hearunto annexed abutting & Bounding as by ye said Plan or Survey may appear And we do hearby ordain And appoint that the respective Inhabitants that now are or that shall hereafter be in possession of the Lands within the Plan or Survey aforesaid shall [be] one Society Corporation and Body Politick to have continuance forever by the name of Keenborough and that they and their Successors shall by that name be able and Capeable in law to call Parish Meetings The first of which is to be called within thirty days from the date hereof by Capt. Andrew Gilman and Humphrey Wilson & Benjamin Gilman And the meetings hereafter shall be on the first Monday of April annually And we do hereby give and grant unto the said society or Corporation full Power and authority to make choice of proper Officers to Levy Taxes on the Inhabitants for the Support of the Society agreeable to the Laws of our Province of New hampshire made for regulating Town and Parish affairs. And we do further give and grant to the said society full Power to call & settle a Regular and Orthodox Minister of the Gospel and to Levy Taxes on the Inhabitants conformable to the Laws aforesaid of our Province aforesaid for his support Reserving only the Reommending the first minister to the President and seinour Fellows of Harvard Colledge in New England, to the Reverend Jabez Fitch & the Reverend John Odlin. And we do also hereby Reserve to his most Sacred Majesty his heirs & successors all white Pine Trees growing standing or being within the plan or survey Above mentioned the Preservation whereof for his Majesties Royal Navy is the Tennure by which you hold and enjoy your Corporation. And lastly we do declare and

Ordaine, That these our Letters Patent & every clause Sentence and article herein contained shall be in all things firm and vallid & effectual in the Law unto the Said Society & their Successors according to the Purport & Tennure hereof

Provided, that these our Letters Patents be recorded within one month from the Date hereof in our Recorder's Office appointed for that purpose in our said Province of New Hampshire

In witness whereof we have caused the to be made Patent
Witness our [torn off]
and Commander in Chief of our Said Province the twenty seventh day of October in the year of our reign Annoq Domine 174—

Pr his Excellency's
Command with B. WENTWORTH.
advice of Council
Theodore Atkinson Sec'y

Copy Ex^d Theodore Atkinson Sec'y

Petition of the Selectmen of Keeneborough.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr; Governor & Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire in Council

The Humble Petition of the Selectmen of Keenborough in the behalf of ye Inhabitants of sd Parish Humbly sheweth

Whereas your Excellency in Conjunction with the Honourable his Majesties Council was pleased to take compassion on us under our former Difficulties and Grant us a Parrish by ourselves; For which we looked upon ourselves greatly oblidged to your Excellency, and the Honoured Council and hoped to have enjoyed great peace & quietness and by virtue of the Charter given us, we have acted ever since, and according to Charter have proceeded to settle a Gospel Minister amongst us viz: The Rev. Mr. Nathaniel Trask, which by Charter we supposed we had full power to do, and to Raise money for his Settlement & Support, and accordingly have raised a Tax upon ye Inhabitants for y^t^ end, but some Discontented persons amongst us, Influenced by some of ye Parish of Brentwood, and by others in other places, who informed them that your Excellency and his Majesties Council, had no power to make us a Parish, and y^t^ your Charter was good for nothing, and being likewise encouraged by ye Gentlemen of ye Law, have refused to pay their Taxes, and being seized and Imprisoned by ye Constable, has brought the Case into ye Law; and to our great Surprise, Judgment went in their favour, at ye last Superior Court, So y^t^ now we are in a Deplorable Condition; Having a Minister Settled and money to pay both for his Settlement & support, and no power to raise any Money in a Legal way, or to gather in any Tax, already raised, and hav-

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ing been at great Expense in vindicating ye Charter, and seeing no hopes of a Reconciliation with ye Parish of Brentwood, their Demand being so unreasonable, nor of Relief in any other way. In this Deplorable Case we humbly crave pitty of your Excellency & the Honourable his Majesties Council, and that you would advise us what to do, and would be pleased to find out some way for our Relief, for otherwise we shall run into ye greatest Confusion, Religion will Die amongst us, and both Civil & Ecclesiastical authority be trampled upon; So hoping that your Excellency & ye Honble his Majesties Council will afford us relief, under these pressing Difficulties and prevent our Ruin, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

Keeneborough September ye 20th 1748.

Timothy Leavit
Edward Colcord
Nicholas Dudley
Jeremiah Bean
John Dudley

Selectmen of Keeneborough

Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of Brintwood, praying to be set off as a parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor & Comander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire the honorable his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd 12th day of June 1764

The Petition of us the Subscribers humbly sheweth that whereas we who are of the Parish of Brintwood in said Province are exposed by being at a great distance from Meeting for the public worship of God Therefore pray your Honers to take our Case into your wise Consideration and set us off as a Parish with all Parish privileges one half of the aforesaid Parish of Brintwood for quantity on the westerly end, Beginning at the northwesterly Corner of said Parish running Easterly on Epping Line so far as to contain one half of the length of said Line. Then beginning at the South westerly Corner of said Parish running Easterly on Kingston Line one half of the Length of the said South Line then to run a Straight Line across said Parish of Brintwood so as to contain full one half of the Land of said Brintwood agreeable to a Vote of said Parish reference hereto being had may make fully appear. And your Petitioners in duty bound Shall ever pray

John Taylor
Joshua Kimball
Benj^a^ Kimball
Zacheus Clough
John Kimball
Nathan Kimball

Jonathan Brown	James Merrill
Joseph Hoyt	James Merrill Jun
Jonathan Ring	John Kenison
James Tucker	Nathan Brown
Daniel Brown	Enoch Brown
John Hoyt	John Hoyt Jun.
Abel Morrill	Samuel Hoyt
John French	Joseph Taylor
John Glidden	Daniel Kimball
Israel Smith	Samuel Clough
Robert Glidden	John Clough
Ephraim Brown	David Kimball
Benjamin Cram	Richard Clough
Abraham Sanborn	David Hoyt
Elias Swain	Samuel Moody
Jonathan Hoyt	Clement Moody
Benjamin Hoyt	Nath[ll] Whittier
Reuben Hoyt	Nathaniel Whittier Jun
John Prscot Lovren ?	Benjamin Clough

Province of } In the House of Representatives June 14th 1764
New Hamps } This petition being read

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted & that the petitioners have leave to bring In a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council June 15th 1764
Read & Concurred
T. Atkinson Sec.

At a Parish Meeting held at the meeting house in Brintwood the fifteenth Day of May 1764

Voted Deacon Jeremiah Bean moderator of said meeting at the same meeting it was Put to Vote to see if the Parish would maintain Two ministers in said Parish & it Past in the Negative

Voted the Inhabitants of the Westerly End of the Parish be set off to be a Parish by themselves that is to come one half the way Down on Epping Line & Run such a Point a cross to Kingston Line as to contain one half y[e] Land in Sd Parish

Elisha Sanborn Clerk

A copy Examd.

CANTERBURY.

[This town was incorporated 20 May, 1727.—Ed.]

At a meeting of the Proprietors of the Town of Canterbury holden by announcement the 16 Day of May 1738, Then Voted that Sam[l] Smith Thomas Young & Sam[l] Adams are and shall be a Comittee to Represent The Town of Canterbury at the General Court by (a petition ?) to be Enabled by an act to make the Proprietors pay their Proportion of the charge that hath arisen and shall hereafter arise in the management of the affairs of said town

Sam[l] Smith Town Cl[r]

Petition of the Proprietors of Canterbury about cutting a road, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon[ble] His Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Court Convened

The Petition of Thomas Young of New Market in said Province Innholder & Samuel Adams of Durham in said Province Physician as Agents for & in behalf the Proprietors of the Township of Canterbury in said Province & in behalf of the Inhabitants of that place Humbly *Shews*—

That the said Proprietors have for some few years last past applied themselves more closely than at first to the pursuit of proper measures for Settling the said Township, & among other things tho't proper for that end have built a meeting house & from time to time hired a minister to Preach to the Inhabitants, which has encouraged the Settlement so that there are about thirty Families now upon the spot.

That the said Proprietors have with considerable expence cut a way from Durham up into the Country upwards of twenty miles towards the said Township of Canterbury, which if cut thro' will be of Great advantage not only to that place but to the Province in General and which they are not able to Effect, & must (with other designs formed for the End aforesaid) fall thro', for want of Proper Laws to Compel such Proprietors as neglect to pay their proportion of the Charge & of such necessary taxes as have from time to time been laid upon them

That it is Evident beyond Contradiction that such designs cannot be executed without Considerable cost & Expence & that every Proprietor ought to bear his proportion of the Charge which has not been done in this case, but the Burthen has been borne by such as were voluntary in the affair & so Reasonable as to do what they Knew they could not be Compelled to by Law Relating to the good of the Propriety

That there are several years taxes not fully paid but arrearages due from Sundry of the Said Proprietors the want of which has been Supplied by others advancing such sums as were necessary and as occasion call'd for them which is a great grievance & a most unreasonable thing that the Charge of carrying on a settlement should be defrayed by some & the advantage be reap'd by all, or that some should be exempted from the charge & yet be equally Intitled to the Profits with those who have born it

That the said Township is a valuable Tract of Land & the settlement thereof (as your Petitioners humbly conceive) deserves the Countenance of the Government as much as & per-

haps more than any new Township in the Province upon more accounts than can be here Enumerated & without which the Settlement will necessarily go on heavily & Slowly as it has hitherto done

Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray that an Act may now be passed to Enable the said Proprietors by their Select men or other officers to Compel such Proprietors as have not paid their proportion of the Rates which have been assessed, to pay them forth with & in default thereof to Dispose of so much of their land, or anything thereon that will Raise the Money as was lately done for the Proprietors of Nottingham or to Levy the same as the Constables of Towns do the Town & Province tax and that Effectual Provision may also be made to Enable them to Raise money upon themselves for the future & Enforce the payment in such a Summary & Expeditious method as may answer the Ends of the Propriety & promote the Settlement & thereby the General good and your Petitioners in behalf of their Constituents as in duty bound Shall ever pray &c

THOMAS YOUNG
SAM[l] ADAMS

Feb'y 25th 1741.

Feb[y] the 27th 1741
In the House of Representatives
Voted That the Prayer of the Petition be granted & that the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly the act to Continue five years and no longer

James Jaffry Cl[r] ass[m]

In Council March 9th 1741–2
Read & Concurred
Rich[d] Waldron Sec[ry]
Same day assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of Proprietors of Canterbury for a Bridge.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire. The Hon[ble] His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General assembly Convened the 22[d] Day of Feb in y[e] 17th year of His Majesty's Reign.

The Humble Petition of Samuel Adams & Joseph Drew both of Durham in said Province as the Major part of a Committee of the Proprietors of Canterbury Chosen to find out & clear a Way or Road from Durham to said Canterbury Shews That yo[r] Petitioners with Benj[a] Smith of said Durham were

chosen & appointed for the business aforesaid and have with Considerable Expence found out & Clear'd a Place for a Road from Durham to Canterbury which may be made with little farther expense (Saving the building a Bridge over Sun Cook River over which the said Way must unavoidably run) a very good Road

That your Petitioners Conceive the Public advantage of good Roads Especially in a time of War for flight or other occasions are so obvious that nothing need to be said on that head and that as every Town is in some Degree benefited thereby where there is a call for an Extraordinary Charge it ought not to be the burthen of the town to which it leads only but of every Town and in this Case the Charge could not be born by that Town

That in order to make the said way answer all the good purposes designed thereby there must be a good Strong Bridge Built over the said River & the Proprietors of Canterbury having been at a very great expence already in Clearing Said Way and carrying an end other affairs to promote their Settlement are not able to Build the said Bridge at their own Cost

Wherefore your Petitioners Pray that a Bridge may be built at the charge of the Province over the said River at the place to which the Way Cleared as afores[d] leads That the same may be forthwith proceeded upon before the Ice breaks up because of the advantage of working upon it And that as the said Way is not opend by any authority of Law it may be Established by the authority of the General assembly for a Publick Road and your Petitioners In behalf of the Proprietors of Canterbury and all others concern'd as in Duty bound Shall ever pray &c

Sam[l] Adams
Joseph Drew

In the House of Representatives Feb 23[d] 1743–4,
The within Petition Read & Voted,

Provided the Proprietors of the Town of Canterbury Build a Bridge this year Suficient for carts & carriages to pass and repass on over Suncook River where the way is Now Cutt to to Travell from Durham to Canterbury & will Warrant to Maintain the Same Bridge for ten years That there be paid the said Proprietors the Sum of fifty pounds Bills of Credit out of the Interest Arising on the twenty five thousand pounds Loan out of that part of said Interest appropriated for Cutting Roads &c when So much shall be in the Treasury

In Council Feby. 24th 1743 James Jaffrey Cl[r] Assm
read & concurred
Theod. Atkinson Secy.

Eodem Die assented to B. Wentworth
Prov. New Hamp

Petition of Canterbury men for wages.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General, and Governor in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire To the Honble his Majesty's Council of said Province And to the Honble House of Representatives, in General Court assembled at Portsmouth, within & for the Province of New Hampshire aforesaid 1754

The Petition of Jeremiah Clough, Philip Call, Samuel French, Thomas Clough, Ezekiel Clough, Henry Elkins, Samuel Moor, Samuel Shepherd & James Shepherd humbly sheweth:

That whereas your humble Petitioners, by Order of his Excellency the Governor, Kept the Garrison at Canterbury in the Province of New Hampshire aforesaid, as follows viz

Jer. Clough, Philip Call, Saml French } begin with ye 5th of Jan 1747—to ye 20th of November following

Thom^{s} Clough, Ezek Clough } beginning with ye 5th of Jan 1747 to ye 8th of May following,

Henry Elkins beginning with the 5th of Jan 1747—to the 12th of August following

Saml Moor, Saml Shepherd } beginning with the 9th of May 1747 to ye 20th of November following:

James Shepherd beginning with ye 13th of August 1747 to the 20th of Novem^{r} following.

And faithfully & effectually performed all necessary Duties in said Garrison, according to our respective stations so that the Enemy never took any advantage to the Damage & Hurt of said Garrison, or of any that belonged to it, during the whole time above mentioned. And yet your humble Petitioners have never as yet been allowed any Wages, or Billeting for our Service, except £100 new tenor toward Billeting, received pr. Capt Clough, tho' other Soldiers who served since we did have been paid both Wages & Billeting. Therefore we your humble Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency & your Honours to take our Case into your wise Consideration, & to grant us wages and Billeting, for the time which we have served, as afores'd. For which Goodness, your humble Petitioners for your Excellency & your Honours, as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Jeremiah Clough
Philip Call
Thomas Clough
Samuel Moor
Samuel Shepherd
James Shepherd

Henry Elkins
his
Samuel ⋈ French
mark
Ezekiel Clough

In Council March 2d 1754 read & ordered
to be sent down to the Honble House of represenves
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of } In the House of Representatives March 2d 1754 upon
New Hampr } Reading the within Petition
Voted that it be dismiss'd.
Attest Matthew Livermore Clerk

Petition of Canterbury for remission of Tax, 1754.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain general, & Governor in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire. To the Honble his Majesty's Council; And to the Honble House of Representatives in General Court assembled.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Canterbury in the Province of New Hampshire aforesaid humbly *sheweth*

That whereas your humble Petitioners (whose Names are hereunto subscribed) are reduced to great Difficulties, & Charges by the threatening Aspect of a War, we humbly pray your Excellency & your Honours to consider & compassionate our distressed Circumstances; & to remit our Proportion of the Province Tax for this year 1754 & till the pressing Danger & Difficulties of War are over. For which Goodness your humble Petitioners for your Excellency & your Honours as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Jeremiah Clough	James Gibson
William Miles	James Lindsey
Thomas Clough	Samuel Shepherd jun.
Josiah Miles	James Shepherd
John Bamford	Joseph Simons
Samuel Shepherd	Joseph Elis
Solomon Copp	James Scales
Benjamin Blanchard	Ezekiel Morrill
John Gibbons	William Moor
John Dolloff	Henry Elkins

Province of } In Council July the 24th 1754
New Hampr } read & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble House of representatives
Theod Atkinson Secy.

Petition of Selectmen for remission of taxes.

Province of
New Hampr

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Honorable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd December the fourteenth 1756.

The Petition of the Selectmen of Canterbury in the Province of New Hampshire in behalf of the Inhabitants of said Town Most humbly Shews—

That by reason of the few Inhabitants in said Town, its being a Frontier and so more exposed to the Incursions and depredations of the Enemy and by Reason of the war this and the last year with the Indian Enemy your Petitioners and others the Inhabitants of said Town are rendered unable to pay the Provincial Taxes laid upon them the last and the present year. That it is with great difficulty under their present circumstances, that they can maintain and support themselves, should they pay no provincial Taxes at all—Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours That you will be pleased to Ease the said Inhabitants of the Provincial Taxes laid upon them the last and this present year and for such further time as to your Excellency and Honours shall seem just and reasonable and in such way and manner as you shall Judge most suitable and proper and that your Petitioners may have opportunity to enforce the prayer hereof and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

JOHN MOOR
ARCHELAUS MOOR } Selectmen
THOMAS CLOUGH

Nov. 30th 1756

Province of
N. Hamps } Read in Council & ordered to be sent down to the Honble House

Theod. Atkinson Secy.

Petition relating to the Original Charter.

Province of
New Hampshire

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, And the Honble His Majesties Council

Humbly Sheweth Josiah Miles Yeoman and Thomas Clough House wright both of Canterbury in said Province & a Com-

mittee appointed by the said Town to apply to your Excellency & Honours on the Following acc't. viz: That the Township of Canterbury was Granted by the Late Honble John Wentworth Esqr Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over said Province dec'd to a Number of persons whose names are in a Schedule herewith presented attested by the Late Sec'y Richard Waldron Esqr dec'd as Clerk of that Council and said Grantees procured a Copy of the said Charter and Recorded the same in their Town book of said Canterbury, a Copy of which Charter attested by the Town Clerk of said Canterbury is herewith also presented, And as the Inhabitants of the said Township have been at Great Trouble & pains in Settling said Township and have been a Great part of the time since the obtaining the Charter aforesaid Labouring under an Indian War (and many Rumors thereof when it was not an actual Warr) and said Township being a frontier the Inhabitants had as much as they could Subsist under to maintain their Respective familys without making any Enquiry into their Charter priviledges. But at Length Some people among them making Enquiry about the said Charter found a Transcript thereof in their Town Book but without any attestation and on further Enquiry Could not find the Original Charter nor any attested Copy thereof any where nor any Record thereof in the Sec^ys^ office and as the aforesaid Secy Waldrons house was burnt with many publick papers of the Province they are apprehensive the said Original Charter was then burnt

Wherefore the said Josiah and Thomas as aforesaid pray that the said Copys aforesaid may be Recorded in the Secy's office and they confirmed in their Respective Estates as tho they now had the aforesaid Original Charter, and they as in Duty bound shall Ever pray

Portsmouth Jany 16, 1756.

JOSIAH MILES
THOMAS CLOUGH } Committee

In Council Jany 17, 1756.

The Within Petition read & order'd that the Secy. record the Copy said Charter & Schedule it appearing to the Council that the Copys are Genuine.

Theod. Atkinson Secy

Petition of Inhabitants of Canterbury to be set off from Bow.

Province of }
New Hamp }

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General Gov[r] & Comm[d] in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hamp[re], The Hon[ble] His Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened June 14th 1764.

The humble Petition of Archelaus Moor Gent. Henry Elkins W[m] Gault, Enoch Webster, William Curry, W[m] Moore Joseph Mann Husbandman Ann Curry widow & Stephen Gerrish Gent. Sheweth

That your Petitioners are Settled on a Tract of Land in form of a Gore which until lately was deemed a part of the Town of Canterbury in said Province, and lays between that and Bow; But upon running the Canterbury Line about 12 years ago, the said Gore was found to be Land in right of Mason's Patent, And Thereupon the Proprietors of the said Town of Canterbury have Chosen a Committee to Treat with Mr. Mason's Representative, about the Purchase of the said Land

That your Petitioners are very desirous of being annexed to the Town of Canterbury, rather than Bow, as they are within Two miles of Canterbury Meeting House, and are distant six Miles from that of Bow, and also as they have several Family Connexions in Canterbury

Your Petitioners therefore humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours That the aforesaid Gore of Land may be by An Act of the General Court annexed to and Incorporated with the said Canterbury & partake of all the Priviledges thereof

And your Pet[rs] shall Ever pray &c

W. Clagett for Petrs.

In Council June 14th 1764
Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon[ble] House

T. Atkinson, Jun. Secy.

Province of }
New Hamp } In the house of Representatives *July* [June?] 14th 1764.
This Petition being Read

Ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon the Second Day of the Sitting of the General Assembly after the first Day of July next & that they at their own Cost put up notification at all the public places In Canterbury & Bow, Incerting therein the substance of this petition, & order of Court thereon that any persons Concerned therein may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council June 15th 1764
Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun. Secy

Province of }
New Hamp } In the house of Representatives Jan[y] 23[d] 1765
This petition being Read

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted & the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Jany. 23d 1765
Read & Concurred
T. Atkinson Junr. Secy.

Petition of Abiel Foster about Town records.

Province of }
New Hampr }

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Governor in chief in & over said Province The Honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd

The Humble Petition of Abiel Foster of Canterbury in the County of Rockingham Clerk, as agent for & in behalf of the Proprietors of Canterbury aforesaid Sheweth that a vast Number of Papers containing the Votes and Proceedings of said Proprietors touching their most important Concerns as Proprietors, and by which, many Estates in said Canterbury have been conveyed and are now held by some Neglect or Omission of the Clerks of said Proprietors, have not been recorded.

Upon the Discovery of which said Proprietors appointed a Committee to collect, inspect, examine and see that the same should be recorded in the Proprietors Books. The said Committee according to their appointment carefully examined said Papers and found them to be in the hand writing of the former Clerks of said Proprietors most of them among the files of said Proprietors to have all the Marks of original fair & Genuine Minutes and Entries some made thirty years ago, which Papers the Committee have within six months past caused to be recorded in the Books of said Proprietors, the Record of which Papers contains Eighty Pages in folio or more.

And as the same Papers were not attested by any of the former Clerks of said Proprietors, tho' they appear to be truly made as aforesaid, Your Petitioner humbly conceives that the Interposition of your Excellency and Honors will be necessary to authenticate the Same. Wherefore he humbly prays in behalf of said Proprietors that a Committee of the General Court may be appointed to inspect and examine sd Papers and Records lately made and to report thereon, and that su Papers and records may be authenticated by your Excellency and Honors either by act or Resolve of the General Assembly or in any other way that your Wisdom may suggest And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

Abiel Foster.

January 19th 1774.

Province of } In the house of Representatives Jan 19th 1774,
New Hampsr } Upon Reading this Petition

Voted that the Petitioner cause the substance of said Petition to be printed in the New Hampshire Gazette three weeks successively and that any party having any Objection may be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly after the 20th of February next

Wm Parker Clr. Assembly

In Council Jany 19 1774.
Read and concurd

Geor King D. Secy.

NOTE. This Petition was renewed April 5th, 1774, and acted on as follows. [ED.]

Province of } In the House of Representatives April 9th 1774
New Hampsr }

Voted, That the Petitioner be heard on this Petition on the second day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the tenth Day of May next and that he Cause the Substance of this Petition and Order of Court to be Printed three weeks Successively in the New Hampshire Gazett that any Person may Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition Should not be Granted

M. Weare Clr

In Council eodem Die
Read & concur'd

Geo King D. Secy

Province of } In the House of Representatives May 13th 1774
New Hamps } The within Petition being Consider'd and the Parties heard thereon by their Council

Voted That Samuel Cutts Esqr Colo Christopher Toppan and John Giddings Esqr be a Committee of this House to Joyn with Such as the Honble the Councill Shall appoint to inspect and Examine the Papers and Records mentioned in the Petition and Report thereon to the General Assembly

M. Weare Clr

In Council May 14th 1774
Read and concurd after hearing the Parties.

Geo King D. Secy

CHARLESTOWN,

[Originally Number-Four, was first granted by Massachusetts, Decr, 31, 1735. It was incorporated by Charter during the administration of Gov. Benning Wentworth, 2 July, 1753. ED.]

Letter from No. 4 to Colonels Willard and Hinsdale.

No. 4. October 19th 1743.

Honred Gentlemen

We the Inhabitants of this Township being apprehensive that we are very much Exposed and in hazard In case of a War between ye nations and are Sensible that we are not Capable of Defending our selves in Case of a rupture by Reason

of ye smallness of our numbers and Distance From Neighboring Plantations and places of Defence are in Continual Fear Lest we should be Surprised by ye Heathen and although we are makeing ye best Preparation we Can to Secure ourselves yet we are Fearfull we shall not be be able to Stand our Ground but must be obliged to Leave our Habitations and Repair to places of more security If we Cannot be Supported by ye Government.—We therefore Earnestly Desire yor Hon^rs^ that you would Improve yor Interest with ye Gov ernours Either of ye Massachusetts or N. Hampshire (which you shall think most Proper) that we may have such a supply of men posted here as they shall think Necessary for our Defence to be Employ'd Either in Scouting or otherwise as they shall Judge most proper. Lieu^nt^ Witherby is Willing to Come among us with a Company of Men, If he Can obtain order and Encouragement from the Government. We pray you would Write to Either Governour as your Discresion shall Direct you on our behalf and In our names submitting our Case to yor Prudence praying you would do what you can for us and as speedily as may be and thereby will oblige

Yo^r^ Most Humble & Obedient servants

Benjamin Willson
Isaac Parker
Charles Holden
Job Spafford
Isaac Parker Jun.
Abraham Parker
Jno Hastings
David Farnsworth
John Avery
Ebenezer Putnam
John Hastings Jr.
Simeon Sartwell
Benoni Woolcott
John Spafard

Superscribed, &c.

Petition of John Spafford.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governour and Commander in Chief in & over his Maj^ties^ Province of New Hampshire and to his Maj^ties^ Council for said Province & the House of Representatives now Conven'd in General Assembly

John Spafford for himself and about thirteen familys Lately Settled on the East Side of Connecticut River being known by the name of No. 4 humbly Sheweth—

That your Petitioners have lately made a Settlement there and at their own Charge hath Built a Large & Strong Garrison and have twenty five men or thereabouts, and have good plantations there and a good prospect of a Considerable p'cll of Graine now growing on the Land. But so it is theire Settlements being so much exposed to the Indians, and not above Eighty miles from the French Fort on the Lake where the

French may soon and Easyly annoy them & the Indians tells them that they must fight for the french and tells them to take Care of themselves. Your Petitioners being so Exposed to the Enemy and so far from any English Settlem^{t} they cannot pretend to stand on their own Defence, and therefore humbly prays your Excell^{y} and honours of the Genl Ass^{m} that they may have some assistance of Men to assist them in Keeping their Garrison and preserve their Cattle and Graine, or as in your Wisdom you shall think fitt. And if no assistance of men may be obtained Then to let the People Know it, That your Petitioners may use Some Speedy means for the preservation of themselves & families and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray &c

JOHN SPAFFORD.

July the 24th 1744.

Petition for a road.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c The Honourable his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened this Eighteenth Day of October 1768

The Petion of Simon Sartwell, William Heywood and Elijah Grout as Selectmen of the Town of Charlestown in s'd province to your Excellency and Honours humbly *sheweth*, that the Inhabitants of said Charlestown with those of the adjoining Towns, have Looked out and marked a Road, and in part Cleared the Same, between said Charlestown & Boscawen and are of opinion the same may be made a good Carriage Road, which if effected, is humbly conceived might be of Great utility & Benefit to many Towns in this Province by having a much nearer & easier Communication with the Metropolis than has as yet been found out which is tho't would greatly Fecilitate the Settlement of many new Townships, hitherto much retarded for want of good Roads.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency & Honours would be pleased to indulge them with your approbation of said Road and that ye same may be confirmed as the Main Road or Highway from said Charlestown to Boscawen and that such Regulations and orders for farther opening and Clearing said Road may be made as by your Excellency & Honours may tho't best or otherways to Grant such Relief to your Petitioners, in the Premeses as to this Hon$^{bl\,e}$ Court Shall

in wisdom, be Judged best and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

SIMON SARTWELL
Wm HEYWOOD
ELIJAH GROUT.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Octr 26 1768
New Hamps^r } The foregoing Petition being Read & Considered

Voted That the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill to Oblige the Proprietors of the Several Towns through which said Road Marked out as mentioned in the Petition passes, to Clear and make Said Road Passable

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council October 28—1768
read & concurred
T. Atkinson Jun Sec'y

Petition of Timothy Lovell about an island opposite Charlestown.

Province of }
New Hampshire }

To his Excell^cy John Wentworth Esqr Capt General Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Maj^tys Province afores^d In Council.

The Memorial & Petition of Timothy Lovell of Rockingham in said province Humbly Shews

That your Memorialist is now the owner of & in possession of a certain Island in Connecticut River, nearly adjoining to Charlestown containing about Nine acres, that the said Island was always deemed part of the said Township of Charlestown, & so alotted to & among the Proprietors, who with those who hold under them have cultivated & mowed the same for near seventeen years last past, & never heard the Title controverted, till within a very little time past y^r Men^llst has been informed that some persons are about to make application to Y^r Excellency & Hon^rs for a Grant thereof, which might be productive of much Trouble & inconvenience &c. Your Mem^llst therefore humbly prays Y^r Excell'^cy and honors would be pleased to suspend your Determination of this matter, in case application Should be made, untill y^r Mem^llst might have an Opp^ty to prove what he alledges relative to his Right of property & possession as afores^d And y^r Memorialist as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c

TIMOTHY LOVELL.

Portsm^o 6th April 1770

Petition in behalf of Benj[a] Page for a Ferry.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, and to the Hon[bl]e His Majestys Council

The Humble Petition of Benjamin Page of Charlestown in said Province of New Hampshire Yeoman Humbly Sheweth also the Petition of the Selectmen and other of the Inhabitants of said Charlestown—praying that the said Benjamin may have the benefit of the Ferry that leads from Charlestown to Crown point (as he is settled at the Ferry as near as is convenient for a Ferry man) he is a sober well disposed person and we think he will attend the Business and be faithfull to oblige those that Travel the road, there is no house that is within half a mile of said ferry on this side the river and we Your Excellency's Petitioners Humbly pray that he may have a Charter of the same if Your Excellency and Honours shall think fit to Grant the same to him as we Judge him to be suitable for the business and Your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Jan[ry] 10th 1771.

Wm Heywood
John Hastings Jr } Selectmen

Nath[el] Powers	William Jacobs
James Farnsworth	Sam[ll] Hunt
Osmon Baker	Silvanus Hastings
Timothy Putnam	Enos Stevens
Simon Powers	Lem[l] Hastings
Elijah Parker	Stephen Atworde
Benoni? Spafford	Willard Stevens
Rich[d] Holdin	David Taylor
Peter Page	Abel Walker

Petition of John Nott.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Governor & Commandor in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and to His Majestys Honb[l]e Counnicel That Whareas it Hath Bin Pleaseing to the People of Charlestown to Sign and Send to the Governor & Cownsel desiering that Ben[jmaa] Paige Should have the ferey Grantted to him it is also my desire that it Should be grantted to him and Pray your Excellency & the Oner[bl] Counsel to grant it to him on this Side of the River the humble Request of John Nott who hath maintained the ferey with a good Booat on my own Cost six years

John Nott.

January the 14 1771.

Petition of Simeon Olcott for a Ferry.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire &c.
In Council

Humbly Sheweth Simeon Olcott of Charlestown in said Province that there being no Ferry legally appointed and Established on Connecticut River between said Charlestown and Springfield on the opposite side of said River, by reason whereof his Majesty's Subjects are often obstructed or delayed in passing said River or exorbitant sums demanded for the same—Wherefore your Petitioner prays that he may be appointed and authorized to set up & Keep a Ferry on said River between said Charlestown and Springfield under such Orders and Regulations as in your wisdom shall be tho't fit and your Petitioner shall ever pray &c

SIMEON OLCOTT.

Portsmouth 19th March 1771.

CHESTER.

[Chester was an original township of ten miles square granted Aug. 26, 1720, and was incorporated 8 May, 1722. ED.]

Petition in behalf of the proprietors of Chester.

To the Honble John Wentworth Esqr Lieut. Gov. Governor and Command^er^ in Chief in and over His Majesties Province of New Hamp^e^ and to the Honble the Council for said Province.

The Humble Petition of Henry Sherburne Saml Ingalls, John Sanborn & Thos Packer in Behalf of the Propriet^ys^ of the Town of Chester In said Province Humbly Sheweth

That the Propriet^rs^ of the Town of Chester afores^d^ about two years since Chose a Comittee to Join wth a Comittee of the Town of Londonderry to run the Line between the two Towns, which the said Comittee accordingly Begun & made some Progress in it but did not Compleat the same, by reason that the Comittee for Londonerry would not consent to allow the usual allowance (of Eleven Chains for ten for windfalls & in ye woods) in the measure on the W. N. W. or Side Line, and would allow only bare measure which was unreasonable and never Practiced before the reason of their being so Exact is Because the Propriet^rs^ of Londonderry have Artfully contrived to have it so in their Charter as to Ingrose to them selves the

Fishing place at Ameskeegg by taking into their Town a small gore of Land at the head of Chester, running so far between the river of Merrymack and the head of Chester untill it takes in the said Fishing place, they having measured it beforehand for that purpose, their Ingrossing to themselves ye s^d^ Fishing place will not only be greatly prejudicial to Chester but also to the other New Towns. Y^r^ Petitioners therefore Humbly pray That yor Honours will be pleased to appoint a Committee to run the said Lines and Settle the bounds between the said Towns in such a manner as is Customary and yor Petition^rs^ as in duty bound Shall ever pray

Jan^ry^ 6th 1725–6

HEN SHERBURNE
THOMAS PACKER
} Committee

For themselves and in behalf of
SAM^l^ INGALLS
JOHN SANBORN

In Coun. Jan^ry^ 8th 1725–6.

The Petition of Chester Committee this day Presented to ye board by Mr Thom^s^ Packer Praying the Honble ye Lt Govr & Council to appoint a Committee to run out & Settle ye Divisional lives & boundaries between that town & Lond^o^ Derry for the reasons therein set forth, being read It is Ordered That the hearing upon the said Petition be on Tuesday ye 25 Inst. at ye Coun Chamb. in Port^o^ and that the Petitioners serve ye Selectmen of the s^d^ Town of Lond^o^ Derry wth a Copy thereof & of this order in the mean time that they may have an opportunity to shew ye Reasons (if any they have) why the Prayer of s^d^ Petition may not be granted.

R Waldron Clark Con.

To be heard a Tuesday fortnight.

Chester Committee Petition—Minutes of Council thereon, Jan 25, 1725.

Prov. N. Hamp^r^ { Present in Coun. Jan 25, 1725. 6
Lt. Govr Mark Hunking, K. Wibird Esqr

The Committee of Chester appearing to prosecute their Petition for a Committee to settle ye divisional line between ye Town & London-Derry which was filed ye 8th Instant & Messrs Cargil & Robt Boyes appearing in behalf of ye s^d^ Town of London Derry & both partys being fully heard It is ordered That the Prayer of ye Petition be granted & that Mr. James Stevens be ye Surveyor to lead ye Course & y^t^ Mr Benj^a^ Barker Jno Calton be ye Persons to carry ye chain & that Capt. Jno Gillman & Mr. Edward Hale go on wth one chain man & ye other wth ye other & keep ye Tally who are likewise to take care & see that due & just allowance be made in ye measure in all cases where they shall Judge it requisite and that this busyness be performed between this time & ye middle of June next & reported into ye secretarys office immediately after ye Completing thereof & y^t^ ye Charge of ye Committee be paid by ye 2 Towns Jointly & y^t^ ye s^d^ Committee be sworn to ye faith' discharge of ye Duty of y^r^ respective trusts according to ye form annexed

Petition of Selectmen of Chester 15 *Oct.* 1726.

To the Honble John Wentworth Esqr Lieut^n Goven^r Comand^r in Chief in & over His Maj^ties Prov^e of New Hamp^r And to the Honble the Council for Said Province.

The Humble Petition of Clem^t Hughes, Robt Smith and John Sanborn Selectmen of the Town of Chester Humbly Sheweth

That Capt Tobias Langdon, Capt Tim^o. Gerrish & John Smith appointed by yor Hon^rs sometime Since to be a Comittee to run ye Head Line of Exeter (wch is the Dividing line between s^d Exeter & Chester afores^d) did not attend the Directions of y^r Honours in that affair but followed the Directions of ye Select men of said Exeter therein, and having run s^d line to ye s^d Selectmens mind, made their return to ye s^d Selectmen instead of doing it to yor Hon^rs so that that line is as yet unsettled to the great prejudice of the afores^d Town of Chester

Yo^r Petition^rs Therefore Humbly pray yor Hon^rs to appoint a Comittee to run the two miles that Exeter is to run upon a W by N. point above Dover and from thence upon a Straight line to a Beach Tree (on Kingston Side Line) appointed & marked in the year 1718 to be ye bounds for Exeter on y^t side, by the Grand Comittee appointed by the Gen^al assembly to fix ye bounds of each Town within this Province which Straight line is ye Dividing line between Exeter & Chester, And that yor Hon^rs would please to Direct Said Comittee to run said Line with all Convenient Speed and yor Petition^rs as in duty bound Shall Ever pray

CLEMENT HUGHES
ROB^rt SMITH
JOHN SANBORN.

Portsm^o Octr 15th 1726.

Report on Petition for a road.

Province
New Hampshire }

Pursuant to a Vote of the General Court Bareing Date May 26th 1743 To us the Subscribers a Committee appointed by the General Court to go up to Chester and Londonderry to View a highway formerly Laid out by Chester and Londonderry and recorded in Each Town and also a Nother way Petitioned for by Chester, and to make Report of our Doeings therein to the Gen^al Ass^m att their next sessions

Wee haveing been up and Viewed Both Ways and Doe find that the way formerly Laid out from Londonderry to Chester, Between the lands of Messrs James Colwell and Patrick Duglass to Derry Northeasterly line And then on a Straight line through the land of ——— Brown of Chester to meet the Road, that leads by Deacon Dearbourns to Chester Meeting house is the Most Convenient way for accommodation of Both

Towns aforesaid and for Travellers in General Dated this 22d Day of Sept. 1743.

John Downing Jr.
Geo Walton
Richard Jennes

In the House of representatives May 26th 1743.

The within Petition read & a former Petition of the Select men of Chester read relating to the same affairs and the Petitioners & the Select men of Londonderry respondents heard by the Council and

Voted That their be a Comittee Sent to View the highways Viz That which is Laid out & that which is Petitioned to be Laid out and the sd Comittee to make returne to the General Assembly at their next Sessions which place is most proper for a high way and upon the Comittees returne to Consider who Shall pay the Charge And that George Waldron & richard Jennes Esq be a Comittee from this House to Joyn such as the Honble the Council Shall appoint to do the Service above sd

James Jaffrey Cler Assm

Eodem Die

In Council read & Concurrd & Joseph Sherburne & John Downing Esqr added to the Comittee above sd

Theod Atkinson Secy.

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. Wentworth

Copy Exn

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

In the House of Representatives 7br 23d 1743

The within Return read, and accepted And

Voted That the Highway, as therein mentioned & Described, be the Kings High way, and that all obstructions in or on said high way be Removed, and that the same be allowed to be a Publick Road, and that the Petitioners of Chester pay the Charg of the Comitee that went on the Spot Each pson thirty Shillings (old Tenor) pr Diem for their Labor & Charge, And that the said Petitioners of Chester pay the said Charge to some or one of the said Comitee within thirty days after the Date hereof.

James Jeffrey Clr Assm

In Council September 23d 1743
read & Concured

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Eodem Die

Assented To B. Wentworth

Memorandum the High Way Laid out and Recorded from Chester to Londonderry by Saml Browns the length is one mile and a Half and sixty Rhods

The way by Kars mills as was showed to us but not Laid out was two miles and fifty two Rhods

Saml Emerson } Chare men
dated at Chester Thomas Cochran } upon oath
August ye 23d 1743

The Highway that is Laid out and Recorded, went acrost Samuel Browns Land as we measured; He Promised to give said Land for a High way to the town of Chester without any other Satisfaction than not to Have sd High way goe by his house

The way by Karrs mills as we measured went first acrost James Col-

wells Land (2^{ly} acrost Capt Morses Land—3^{ly} acrost John Karrs Land (4^{ly} acrost John Karr Junr's, Land (5^{ly} acrost Robt Gillcreast Land (6^{ly} acrost John Karr Junr's Land.

Chester Petition in relation to the Ministry.

To his Excellency Jonathan Bolcher Esqr Governour & In and Over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^{or}able His Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General Court now Assembled at Portsm^{o}

The Petition of the Town of Chester Humbly Sheweth That whereas after the Revd Mr Eb^{r} Flagg was settled in said Town by Vote according to ye directions of the Law to be the Gospel Minister, A considerable number of persons Petition^{d} the General Court for an explanation of the law of Liberty Supposing they being Presbeterians were exempted from paying to Mr Flag which was then explain'd in their favour. Since which they have accordingly proceeded in a cordial manner, and have endeavour^{d} to take the best method the present Circumstances will admit to Rais money for the Respective ministers, as follows at a Town Meeting warn'd for that purpose when met they Voted Separately Mr Flaggs Salary; and the Presbeteryans voted a Salary for the Rev^{d} Mr. Jno Wilson their Minister the Selectmen Sign'd the Respective warrants to ye Constable or Collectors to collect the Same if this Method be agreeable we Humbly pray yor approbation. But if anything in our proceedings hitherto is short of what is Necessary in the Law we humbly entreat a favourable construction and pray that the presbeterians may be Qualify'd Lawfully to proceed for the future. Also if it be Necessary for Mr Flags hearers to proceed in any other method than hitherto pray for particular direction as to yor Excellency and Honours shall appear needful Also we pray that ye day of ye annual meeting may be altered to som other day of ye week to escape interfering with the Fast? which will oblige yor Humble Petitioners

JOHN CALFE
JOHN TOLFORD
EPHRAIM HASSELTINE
ENOCH COLEBY
} Selectmen of Chester

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives the within Petition Read &

Vot^{d} That the Prayer of the within Petition be granted in the following manner Viz.

Vot^{d} That the Two Congregations in Chester viz: that are called Congregationalists and those that are called Presbyterians have power to act Seperate in Raiseing money for Support of y^{r} Ministers Respectively for Defraying the Charges of building & Repairing their meeting

houses and that they have power to Chuse Wardens Seperate to assess all persons and their Estates belonging to their Respective Congregations as aforesaid Toward Defraying Such Charges as shall be Raised for the aforesaid uses Seperate in Just & Equall Proportion, to such Tax & Taxes as they shall Vote from time to time at their Respective Meetings And that they have power to Choose Collectors Seperate to Collect the said Taxes and that they have Liberty to bring in a bill accordingly and that John Calf, Eph Hazilton Enoch Coleby, be impowered to call the first meeting for the Congregationall[s] and that Cap[t] Sam[l] Ingolls John Tolford John Carr be impowr'd to call ther fist meeting for Presbetering meeting

James Jeffrey Cl[r] Ass[m]

August 6th 1740
In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurred
Ric[d] Waldron Secy
Same day Assented to
J. BELCHER

Petition for aid of soldiers.

To the honourable Captins of Chester Greeting

Whereas there is a Considerab[l]e number of famelis scattered in the wilderness in the out skirts of Chester Some lives four miles and a half some three and a half (& 6 from any help) we are so scattered that we think we are very unfit to live as we have dund nevertheless we would be willing to imitat something of the spirit of the people of Zebulon and Naphtleen who Joperded their lives in the high places of the field and whereas we have a velow for our loss and libertise we Earnestly beg that your honours would look upon us in our Destrees and help with some suldiars a certain number we are not willing to name your selves Knowing our surcumstances and how it is with us believes you will help us this way more then we with prudence could name and in so doing your Poore pettioners will ever Pray if no help Coms we must leave our houses and homs and goe lik scattered Sheep.

James Besford
David McCluer
John Precut
Jebesh French
Jonas Clay
John Clay
David McClure
Jacob Basford

To the Hon[l]e Cap[ts] of Chester, greeting.

Whereas we y[e] Subscribers live Remote from the town and for some years past have been obliged to leave our places for want of a sufficient number of men to Keep a garrison which has been greatly to our damage and we being desirous to live here if we can have three or four men to help support a garrison

We Remain yours to serve,

Ithamar Cary
Zachariah Butterfield
Stephen Webster
Aaron Butterfield
Philip Grifen
Joshua Hall
Allet Bary

To the Captains of Chester:

We the subscribers earnestly Requests your Aid and assistance in pettioning the General Court for some help yourselves Knowing how we are scattered And how far a Distance from the metting house some 7 some 8 some 9 miles from it Gentle men we are your humble servants

William Ollcot?
Walter Macfarlan
William Grinel
William McClintok
Nathaniel Boyd
Micheall McClintok.

Tolford & Wells' Petition.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire the Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened the Tenth day of May 1748

The Petition of John Tolford and Thomas Wells of Chester in the Province of New Hampshire in behalf of the Inhabitants of s^{d} Chester most humbly Shews That the s^{d} Town of Chester is exposed to the Indian Enemy and sundry of the Dwelling houses in s^{d} Town so exposed that unless there be more men to defend them than the Town itself can afford they will unavoidably be obliged to leave them and their lands also That thereby the Enemy will gain an advantage and the Frontier be bro't nearer the Center That Sundry Persons who live in the outskirts of said Town have pray'd for help as by their respective Petitions hereunto annexed and herewith presented may more fully appear. Wherefore your Petitioners Most humbly pray your Excellency and Honours to allow such a number of men for the Defence and protection of s^{d} Town as in your great wisdom shall be tho't reasonable

JOHN TOLFORD
THO^{s} WELLS.

In Council May 11 1748,
read & Sent Down to the Honble House
Theo. Atkinson Secy

Minutes of Chester town meeting Mar. 29, 1753.

At a meeting of the free holders and Inhabitants of the Town of Chaster held at Chaster the 29th Day of March 1753 Capt. Abel mors being moderator for said meeting amongst other things

Voted that the after mentioned tract of Land may be Incorporated into a Parash Beginning at Londonderry Line at a Stake and stones being the South west Bound of Land Sold to Thomas Cochran by the proprietors of said Chaster and run strate to a pitch pine tree being the

South west bound of Nathaniel Halls Land by penicook path than north north East By sad Halls Land as far as that gos and then Strate to the South East Corner of the 39th Lote in the Second part of the second division than North 29 Degrees East to the north east bound of the 43d Lote in the afforesaid devision then west north west to tower hill pond and then strate to the north Est Corner of Darefeld then South by Derryfeld to Londondary Line to the first Bound mentioned

A true Coppy Taken from Chaster town Book of Record as ates to

SAMUEL EMERSON
town Clark

Petition of Andrew Craige of Chester, 9 Mar. 1757.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor & Commander In Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for saide Province in General Assembly Convened the Ninth Day of March 1757

The Humble Petition of Andrew Craigge of Chester in said Province One of the Select men of said Town for the Year 1756 In behalf of himself & the other Select men of said Town for said Year Shews

That by the Treasurers Warrant to the said Select to Levy the said Towns Proportion of the Province Tax for said year Several Different Sums are mentioned & ordered to be Levied and Paid into the Treasury at Different times and there are also two Sums Each of £ 203 :2 which the said Select were ordered as aforesaid to Raise which they by mistake took to be the same sum only twice mentioned in said Warrant by which Mistake the said Sum therein Last Mentioned is Omitted & no Tax has been made for Raising the same whereby the Said Town Falls so much in arrears to the Treasury

That the time Limitted in said Warrant for Paying in the Said sum is Past & the Omission so Lately Discovered that the said Selectmen could not make a New Tax & Comite the Same Seasonably to be Collected before the annual Meeting at which new officers may be Chosen and the Present Town Officers Superseded besides that it would have Perhaps Occasioned Some Disputes & Differences in said Town. Wherefore your Petitioner most Humbly Prays That as this Omission is the Effect of Inadvertence & not of Design the said Selectmen may be Excused & Exempted from the Penalty of the Law in such Cases Provided That the Treasurer may be ordered to suspend Issuing an extent against them for this arrearage but that the said Town may have further time for the Payment thereof that the Selectmen that may be Chosen for the Present Year may be authorized to Levy the Same with the Tax for this Year in the Same manner as it Ought to have been done in the Year Past and that a Resolve of the whole

Legislature may be Past for this Purpose or if that should be tho't Insufficient That your Petitioner may have Leave to bring in a Bill accordingly or that you would be Pleased to Grant Such other Relief in the Premises as in Your Great Wisdom & Goodness you shall judge Expedient and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c

ANDW CRAIGE.

In Council March 9th 1757
read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly
Theodore Atkinson Sec.

Province of New Hamps } In the house of Representatives March 10th 1757
This Petition having been read & the Petitioner being fully heard thereon

Resolved That the prayer thereof be granted & that the Petitioner have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly
Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurrd
Theod. Atkinson Secy.
Consented to
B. WENTWORTH.

ADVERTISEMENT.

These are to notify and warn the free holders and Inhabitants of the Town of Chester Qualifyed for Voting to assemble and meet at the old Meeting house in Chester upon Wednesday the Twenty sixth Day of this Instant January at one of the Clock in the afternoon of sd Day 1st To chuse a moderator for said meeting 2ly To see if the Town will Vote of that part of the Town called the north Parish or freetown so called to be a Town or Parish by themselves or to act and Do what shall be Thought proper in that affair

Dated at Chester January 12th 1763 — JOHN WEBSTER, BRADBURY CARR, MATHEW FORSAITH } Selectmen of Chester

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Chester held at Chester January 26th 1763 agreeable to the fore going Warning

Voted Deacon Ebenezer Dearborn moderator for said meeting
2ly Voted Saml Robie Clerk pro tempore for said meeting
Voted That That part of the Town of Chester Called the north Parrish or freetown as much as was Laid out in Parrish forme shall be set of as a Town or Parrish
A True Copy Taken from Chester Town Book of Records
Attest SAML EMERSON Town Clerk

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the North parish in Chester, June 14, 1763.

To His Excellency Benning Wintworth Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New hampshire The Hon$^{bl e}$ his Majesties Councill and the Honourable House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Conven'd;

The Petition of us The Subscribers Inhabitants of that part of Chester Call^{d} The North parish or freetown, Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners Living at such a great Distance from the Town, That they have no advantage of the Ministry nor Schools notwithstanding they have for many years Paid There proportion, To the Support of Boath and the Town being sensable That It would be Just for us To be freed from that Charge have at a meeting held at Chester Jany 26; 1763,

Voted That, that Part of the Town of Chester call'd The North parrish or freetown, as much as was Laid out in parrish form, shall be Sett of as a Town or Parrish the bounds of s^{d} North Parrish so call'd are as fol^{s} beginning at the north East Corner of Chester upon the head line of Exeter at a beach or maple Tree being the bounds between Chester and Nottingham, So Running South ab. 29 Degrees west bounding on Exeter head line five miles to the South East Corner of the Lott N° 30. then west north west five miles or so far as to contain all the old hundred acre Lotts then North 29 Degrees East Five Miles To Notting^{m} Line then on s^{d} Line to the first bound

We therefore Pray That all the Land Included in s^{d} Bound, with all the poles & Estates therein Containd may be Incorporated into a distink Parrish from the Town of Chester and be Invested with Same powers and Priveledges That Towns in This Province are by Law Intitled To and That we may have Liberty to bring in a bill accordingly and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray

March 1st 1763.

Daniel Gordin	Daniel Clay
Daniel Holman	Stephen Marden
Elisha Towle	Obidiah Grifen
Jonathan Brown	Moses Sanborn
Simeon Bery	Caleb Row?
Noah Moulton	Robart Page
Wadligh Cram	John Sweet
Joseph Giles	Daniel Robie
Daniel Lane	Jonas Clay
Ezekiel Lane	Stephen Wesson
David Lane	Jethro Bachelder
Nathan Moulton	Benj^{a} Whittier
Josiah Fogg	Clemant Dollof

Daniel Gordan Jr.
John Cram
Alex[r] Melvin
Stephen Fogg
Benjamin Smith
James Fullenton
Samuel Cram
John Stevens
Jonathan Dearborn
Benia Bean
———? Moody
Benjamin Brown
Miles Bean
Isaac Clifford
Paul Smith Marston
Benjamin Prscut
John Fullonton
John Wells
John Prscot Jun[r]
William Todd
Timothy Clough
Ezekiel Smith
David Bean
Alexander Smith
Barten Pollard
David Been Jun[r]
Nathaniel Ethridge
Enoch Fogg.

In Council June 14th 1763
Read & Sent down to the Hon[ble] assembly
T. Atkinson Jun. Secy.

Province of } In the house of Representatives Dec[r] 1st 1763
New Hamp } This petition being read

Voted That the petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the Sitting of the Gen. Assembly Next after the 25th Inst & that they Cause the Substance of this petition & order of Court thereon to be advertised In the New Hamps[e] Gazzette two weeks successively that any person concerned may appear & Shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

A. Clarkson Clerk.

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred
Theo Atkinson Secy.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Apr. 12, 1764,
New Hamps } This Petition & order of the Court thereon being read

Voted That the prayer thereof be granted & that, the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson Clerk

Petition for a Parish.

Province of }
New Hampshire }

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council and house of Representatives in general Assembly convened

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Northwesterly part of Chester in the province afores[d] Most humbly Sheweth that the Situation of the place where we live is such that we cannot without Much Difficulty attend the publick worship of God with our familys in good Weather and at many times in the year not at all. And the Town of Chester being Sensible of our Difficulties have pass'd a Vote

in their Annual Meeting the 25th of March 1762 that we should be set off from them as a Distinct parish about five miles and a half in Length and about four miles in Breadth as followeth, viz) Bounding Northerly upon Nottingham line Easterly on the old Hundred acre lotts so called, Southerly on the Long Meadow parish as that is voted off already, and westerly on the forty acre lotts. Wherefore we pray that we may be In corporated into a parish agreeable to the above mentioned Bounds and be Invested with all those privelidges that other parishes have within this province The granting of which we Humbly Concieve will be a great benefitt too your Humble petitioners and our familys And your petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray

Chester March 22d Anno Dominie 1763

Benjan Batchelder	James M'Clure
Saml Mooers	Nicklus Smith
William Putned?	Jonathan Towle
Winthrop Wells	Phineas Towle
Jonathan Hills	Stephen Palmer
Samuel Towle	Nathl Ingalls
John Clay	Abraham Fitts
Moses Baker	Jacob Sergant
Thomas Sargent	Theophilus Clough
Stephen Webster	Sherburne Rowe
Joseph Smith	Ichabod Robie
Jeremiah Bean	John Karr
Zebed Barey	Asel Quimbey
Enoch Coleby	Elisha Been
Moses Sweet?	Thomas Chretchet
Nathal Emerson	Gilman Dudley
John Sargent	David Hills
Jonathan Been	Samuel Eastman
Benjn Smith	Zachariah Clefford

In Council June 2d 1763
Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Honble House
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Province of } In the house of Representatives June 2d 1763
New Hamps } This petition being read

Ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the Sitting of the General Assembly after the first Day of Aug. next & that they cause the substance of this petition & order of Court thereon to be advertized In the New Hampshire Gazette three weeks successively, that any persons concerned may appear & Shew Cause if Any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurred T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Province of } In the house of Representatives Dec 2d 1763
New Hamp } This Petition being Read

Voted that the prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

Eodem Die in Council
read & Concurred Theod Atkinson Jr Sec.

Petition to confirm bounds, &c.

Province of New Hampshear
Chester Decr 1771

To His Exelency John Wintworth Esqr Captain Generall & Governor in & over His Majesties Province of New Hampshear &c To the Honourable his Majesties Councill & House of Representatives Now assembled

The Petition of us the Subscribers Being in Number the Greatest Part of a Destrict or Parish Commonly Called the Long Meadows Humbly Sheweth that being by a Vote of this Town in the Anuel Meting in the month of March A D. 1753 Voted of for a Parish By Certain Limited Bounds More Clearly set forth in said Vote the Coppy of Which Being Ready to Be Produced, Humbly Prayeth that Your Exelency & Honours would be Pleased to Confirm & Establish said Vote & Bounds, and Grant Unto Us all Parish Privelidges with full Power to Hier a Gospell Minister to Preach Unto us, or to Settle & Ordain one Over us for the Better Conveniency of our attending the Publick Worship of God, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray

John Patten
Nathaniel Linn
John Orr
Robert Craig
Samuel Dinsmor
Wells Chase
Barnard Brickett
Stephen Derbon
Nathaniel Wood?
Joseph Calfe
Samuel Blunt
Mansfield McDoffy
Daniel Weatherspoon
Saml Aiken
Robt Calfe
Anthony Stickney
Robert Witherspoon
David White
Willm Litch
Joseph Linn
Caleb Hall
Moody Chase
Moses Hills
David Wetherspoon
Peter Aiken
James Weatherspoon

Thomas Fowler
Thomas Fowler Junr.
Hugh McAffee
Nathaniel Presbury
Mark
James ⋊ Horn
His
Benj Peirce
Samuel Peirce
Robert McKinley
Stephen Merrill
William McMaster
Moses Underhill
Hugh Crombie
Robert Patton
Thomas Sharlay
James Sharlay
Samuel Sharlay
Robert Gilcrest
Joseph Dearben
Moses McFarland
William Grimes
John Grimes
Adam Willson
James Grimes
Wm Brown Junr.

In Council Decr 19th 1771
The foregoing Petition was read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
Geo. King Dep. Sec.
In the House of Representatives Decr 19, 1771

Voted that the Petition[rs] at their own cost Serve the Selectmen of Chester with a Copy of this Petition & order of Court thereon that they may be heard & Shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer thereof shoud not be granted on the third day of the sitting of the Gen[l] assembly after the 10th day of February next

Attest W[m] Parker Clr.

In Council Dec 19th 1771
Read & Concurrd
Geo. King D. Sec.

Chester Dec. the 24. 1771
We the Selectmen of Chester Have this Day rec'd this Petition
JOHN ROBIE } Selectmen
NATHAN WEBSTER } of Chester

[The following is a copy of the Vote above referred to:]

At a meeting of the free holders and inhabitants of the Town of Chester, the 29th day of March 1753, last. Capt. Abel Morss being moderator for said meeting;—amongst other things.

Voted, That the after mentioned tract of land may be in corporated into a Parrish, Beginning at Londonderry Line at a Stake and stones being the South West bound of Land sold to Thomas Cochran by the Proprietors of said Chester, and run straight to a pitch-pine tree being the south west bound of Nathaniel Halls Land by Penicook path, then north north-east by said Halls Land as far as that goes, and then straight to the south-east corner of the 39th Lot in the second part of the second Division; then North 29 Degrees east to the North-east bound of the 43[d] Lot in the aforesaid division, then west norwest to Tower Hill pond, and then streight to the north-east corner of Derifield, then south by Derrifield to Londonderry Line and so by Londonderry Line to the first bound mentioned.

A true copy taken from Chester Town Book of Record, as Attests
SAM[l] EMERSON, Town Clerk.

[The following names appear to be connected with the foregoing. ED.]

Nath[l] Linn
Capt. Anth Stickney
Rob[t] Calfe
Joseph Linn
James Wetherspun
Alex Sawyer
Thomas Fowler 1 son
Arch[d] McDuffee
Dan[l] Wetherspoon
Hugh McDuffee 2 sons
James Harne
Nath[l] Presbey one son
Benj Parce & one Son
W[m] Brown
Jer Coner
Sam[l] Akin one son
Peter Akin
David Wetherspoone
Rob[t] Craig
Math Tempelton
Rob[t] Mekinly
David Dinesmoor & 3 sons
William Miller
Hugh Crumbie one son
John Patten
Tho[s] McMaster one
David Dickey
W[m] Gillcrest
W[m] McMaster
Rob[t] Patten
Stephen Morl
Alex Kinecom
And[w] McFarlin one
Moses McFarlin
W[m] Grimes & one son
John Grimes
James Grimes
Joseph Calfe
Moses Hills
W[m] Litch
Jesse Harriman
John Macfarlin
Tho[s] Sharlow 4 sons
Dea Adam Willson 2 sons
John Crafford
Moses Underhill

James Hiden one son
Barnard Bricket
Alex Beery
Alex Sevey
Joseph Dearborn
Caleb Hall
Cap. Stephen Dearbon
Modey Chase
Welles Chase
Nath[l] Woods
W[m] Underhill
David Underhill
W[m] Craig
Rob[t] Cran
John Craig

John Orr
Rob[t] Wetherspone
Sam[l] Desmoer
David White
Joshua Blunt
Sam[l] Sucsedr?
Mansfield McDuffee
Mical Gorden
James Akin
W[m] McNell
W[m] Vance
W[m] Miller
Hugh & James Miller
James Litch

Famelys 72—Poles 22

Memorandum.

Agreed upon by the Subscribers Chosen as a Comitee for the Presbetrain Parish in Chester part from y[e] Lower End of y[e] town and part from y[e] Long Meadow so call'd viz: that y[e] Long Meadow part so call'd is to have have y[e] one half of y[e] Preching for Nine months from y[e] first of March to y[e] first of December During y[e] time that the Rev[d] John Wilson is able to Preach and y[e] Remainder to the Lower End of y[e] town, and that y[e] Long Meadow party is to pay y[e] Sum of twenty pounds Lawful money yearly During the Rev[d] John Wilsons minestry and Colect y[t] part of y[e] money them selves and y[e] Lower End of y[e] town to pay twenty five pounds, and Colect there one money them selves.

Chester April y[e] 20th 1772.

N. B.—Each party Bound in Bonds to proform y[e] above agreement or apply to the Generl Cort to Establish the agreement according to y[e] above themselves.

MATH[w] FORSAITH
THOMAS MCMASTON
ROB[t] WILSON
HENRY MOORE
JOSEPH LINN
} Committee for the Presbetrain Parish

Answer to the Petition for a Parish being set off.

Province of New Hamps're
Rockingham Ss

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Capt. Gen[l] Governor & Comm[r] in chief in & over s[d] Province. The Hon[ble] his Majesty's Council, & House of Representatives in Gen[l] Assembly Conven'd May 9th 1772

The Answer of Andrew Jack, Henry Morse, & Robert Wilson Gentlemen, a Committee in behalf of the Presbyterian

Parish in Chester in said County to the Petition of John Patten & others, petitioners for a Parish to be set off in said Chester as by their Petition dated Decr 11th 1771, will more fully appear Humbly Sheweth, That whereas the Parishioners of said Presbyterian Parish have been cited to Shew cause why the prayer of said Petition should not be granted—We, in behalf of said Parish appear, and beg leave to suggest to your Excellency & Honors that s^{d} Petitioners Join'd with the rest of said Parish in the Choice of the Revd John Wilson for their Minister and voted him a certain Yearly Salary and have been, and still are well satisfied with his life and Doctrines, but for other Reasons they desire to be set off as a distinct Parish, altho' they are convinced it is their duty to perform their contract with said Minister, & in Consequence thereof did, at a legal meeting held at s^{d} Chester, mutually agree with the rest of said Parishioners in the lower End of the Parish to have one half the Preaching for nine months yearly from the first day of March, to the first day of December during the time that the said Minister was able to preach, and the remainder of his Preaching should be to the People of the lower end of said Parish and that the said Petitioners pay the sum of Twenty pounds lawful money yearly during the ministry of the said John Wilson, and collect that part of the money themselves, and the Parishioners at the lower End of said Parish Then agreed with said Petitioners to pay to s^{d} Minister Twenty five pounds like money Yearly during said Term, and to collect the same themselves. Now we in behalf of the lower End of said Parish have no objection to the prayer of said Petition being granted so far as it respects their being set off as a distinct parish, provided they continue to fulfil their agreement before mentioned by paying to s^{d} Minister duly the said sum by them agreed to pay him. But inasmuch as the lower end of the Parish are utterly incapable of maintaining a Minister *themselves* they pray that said Petitioners may not be freed from paying the sum aforesaid agreeable to their before ment^{d} contract

May 21 1772. ANDW JACK, HENRY MOORE } Committee in behalf of the Presbyterean Parish in Chester

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The Long medow Parrish ought to be Bounded thus: Beginning at Londonderry Line at a Stake and Stones Being the South West Bound of Land sold to Thomas Cochran by the Proprietors of Chester and Run Streight to a pich pine tree being the

South west bound of Nathaniel Halls Land by Penicook path then north north east by said Halls' Land as far as that goes and then streight to the South East Corner of the 39th Lot in the second part of the second Diviseon, then north 29 degrees East to the North east bound of the 43d lot in the afforesaid Division and then west nor west bounding on Candia Crossing Tower Hill pond, to a Stake and stones being the South West Corner of Candia then north 29 Degrees East Bounding on Candia to Nottingham Line, and then west nor west upon the Northerly Line of the Town to Merrimack River, then South upon the Westerly Line of the Town to Derrifield So Bounding on Derrifield to Londonderry Line and so on that to the first bounds mentioned We the Subscribers the Present Select men for the town of Chester have no objection to make as a town a Ganst a parish being set of agreeable to the aBove Bounds or so as to Enclude all the Land Belonging to Said town Laying above what was voted of as a parish So that the town may not be obliged to Cross Said parish in order to transact bisness as a town so Remote and Ilconveniant

Saml Robie } Selectmen
Joseph True } of Chester

Chester May ye 20 1772

Further Petition.

Chester Jan. 7 1773

To John Wintworth Esqr. Capt. Generall and Govenor in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshere &c To the Honourable his Majesties Counsell and House of Representatives now Assembled

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Sheweth that whereas we the Last year Petioned your Exelency and Honours to be Incorporated Into a Parish by a Line Voted by this Town at their Anuel Meeting in March A. D. 1753 or by any other Line or Destrict your Exelency & Honours Shall think Best for the Better Inabling us to attend and Provide for the Publick Worship of God but still finding Ourselves Labouring Under Greate Dificultys in that Respect by Reason of the Distance we are at from the Lower Meting House where our Revd Teacher Mr. Wilson Officiates his age and Infermity of Body being such that for three months in the year we are wholey without a Teacher the other part of time having but about half the Teaching which occasions us to Repeate this our Humble Petition Praying that your Exelency and Honours would be Pleased to here us and Releve us out of our said

Dificueltys and your Petitioners will as in Deuty Bound Ever pray

Anthony Stickney
Timothy Lunt
Edmund Stickney
Peter Akin
David Wetherspoon
Joseph Linn
Nathaniel Linn
Hugh McDuffee
Joseph Blanchard
Moses Underhill
Caleb Hall
James Hidder
John Patten
Robert Patten
Robert Calfe
Benj. Peirce [a]

Sam[l] Aken
W[m] Brown
Nathaniel Presby
James Horne
his ⋈ mark

James Wetherspoon
Sam[l] Aken Junr.
Mansfield McAffee
Robert Gilcrest
William Litch
Joseph Calfe
Hugh Miller
Daniel Wetherspoon
Archibald Mackafee
Moses McFarland

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representitives Jan[y] 23 1773

Voted that the Petition[rs] Serve the Select men of Chester with a Copy of the Petition & order of Court thereon & that they may be heard thereon the third day of the setting of the Gen[l] Assembly after the first day of April

William Parker Cler Ass[m]

In Council eodem die
Read & concurd
Geo King D. Sec

In the house of Representatives May 13 1773.
the Petitioners were heard to Enforce this Petition and a part of the Inhabitants heard in Answer and considering the circumstances of the People

Voted that the Petition be Dismiss'd

William Parker Cler

Chester March y[e] 23 1773

This day serv'd with y[e] within Petition greeable to order of Cort
Sam[l] Robie } Selectmen
Joseph True } of Chester

Province of New Hampshire 11 Mar. 1773 } A Humble Petition to the Great & General Court Humbly *Sheweth*

That whereas, a petition has formerly been presented unto the great and General Court of this province by a number of the inhabitants of that part of Chester commonly called the Long meadow, and that the said petition setteth forth the great inconveniency the inhabitants labour under by being at such a distance, from the two several meeting Houses belonging to the said town of Chester, and that they the said inhabitants are thereby often prevented from hearing the word of God preached & therefore they have presumed to Pray the Great &

General Court to Incorporate them into a separate parish by themselves. At a late public meeting of said inhabitants of said part of the town of Chester, they convened and almost voted unanimously a positive resolve, that the former said petition should be dormant; for they the inhabitants maturely considered the great hardships they already laboured under (tho' considered as part joined with the whole Town) and that if such a plan was put in execution, they would be rendered uncapable of answering the intention of said former petition, and at the same time lay themselves under many more difficulties not only of being deprived of hearing the word of God preached amongst them (which is at present faithfully done twice every Month by the Rev[d] Mr. Wilson) but the small probability of being unanimous in their choice which at present they are happily united And further as the said former Petition was clandestingly propagated amongst the inhabitants by designing men whose aim was only self interest, consequently enemies to the body politic, when they consider themselves if seperated from the rest of the Town of the aforesaid Chester not to exceed above fifty or sixty famelys, and those (most of them at least) in circumstances very uncapable of bearing such taxes as they must necessary undergo under such a scheme.

Therefor, the Several Inhabitants, deliberating upon the many circumstances there anent Hereby Humbly sublicates that the Great and General Court, will be pleased to view the former presented Petition as propagated by a few persons dissenting from the community purely to gratify their own humour and that the above said Great and General Court, will deliver us from being imposed upon by such who are enemies to our happy constitution and Your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Chester Mar. 11, 1773

James Sharley
John McFarland
James Litch
Mansfield McAffee
John Craford
Moses Underhill
John Orr
William Vance
Mathew Templeton
Robert Craige
Robert McKinley
Stephen Merrill
Stephen Derben
Moody Chase
Nathanael Wood
Joseph Dearben
Moses Hills
David Underhill
David Cunningham
Samuel Blunt
William Craig
John Craig
Thomas Sharley
Jerimia Coner
David Dinsmoor
Arthur Dinsmore
Robert Dinsmore
Thomas McMaster
Thomas McMaster Jr.
William McMaster
David Dickey
Aron Rollings
William Gilcrest
William Miller
James Miller
Michael Gordon
Andrew MacFarland
James McFarland

Chester April ye 24th 1773

To the Wardens of the presbeterian parish in Chester, Gentlemen the Request of your humble Subscribers is that you Would be pleased as soon as posible to call a parish meeting that the Disputes Concerning the Sitting off of the long meadow May be laid before the parish in General for to see If the Lower part of the parish will assist anything in Keeping the parish Conected as It now is pray Gentlemen Dont Neglect and in so Doing you Will oblidge your humble Servants

David Dickey	William Miller
Thomas Sherly	Hugh Miller
Mathew Templeton	William Gilcrest
Robert McKinley	Thomas McMaster
David Dinsmore	Willam McMaster

To His Exelancy John Wintworth Esqr. Capt. generall and governor and Comander in Cheaff of His Majesties Province of New Hampshire &c

Thee Humball Pertion of Daniel Foster of Chester, in New Hampshior Sheweth that your Humball Pertioner Doath Pray That your Exelancy would Be Pleased to Grant me your Humball Pertioner The Privoledge of a Ferry over Merrimack River aGainst my Dwelling Howes in Chester and against the upper end of Goffstown there Being No Ferry Below Their while we cum to Amasquage Falls which is Six Mills Below and their is no Ferry Above their for above four Mills which is against Pembrock Town and This Place is Citewate where it will greatly acomidate the People That Travill to or from gofstown Dunbarton Bowtown and HopKingtown and many other Towns above Their

I should be glad to serve the Publick in this Thing as your Humball Pevtioner in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

DANIEL FOSTER

CHESTERFIELD.

[Chesterfield was granted February 11, 1752; the first settlement was made Nov. 15, 1761. ED.]

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Capt Genl and Govern^r^ in chief &c and to the Hon^bl^e^ His Majesty^s^ Council of said Province

By this Memorial—

Humbly shews Joseph Warren of Boston in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay Physician Administrator of Nathaniel

Wheelwright late of said Boston merchant dec^{d} and which said Nathaniel was sole Executor of the Testament of the Hon John Wheelwright late of Boston aforesaid Esqr dec^{d}

Your Memorialist humbly begs leave to make mention to your Excellency and Hon^{s} that very lately he by the greatest accident was informed that one Mr. Willard had petitioned your Excellency & Hon^{s} to Grant him a certain large Quantity of Land heretofore Granted to John Wheelwright and others, and for reasons in said petition mentioned which your Mem^{o} conceives of to be more specious than real, y^{r} Memorialist after mentioning a fact or two, will without saying a word more submit it to your Excellency's & Hon^{s} Just determination. In the first place it is since this Mr. Willard's prefering his Petitions that your Memorialist knew that his Intestate or his Testator ever had any Land, in your Excellencys Government (lying if your memorialist is rightly informed at place call'd Chesterfield or else where) be that as it may, your Excellency & Hon^{rs} will view him as the administrator of an Executor. And how the affairs of Mr Nathaniel Wheelwright the Intestate were circumstanced at his puting off and death, is not a thing unknown to almost every body in the *five?* provinces—and that there are many heavy demands made upon your Mem^{o} as administrator of the said Nathaniel Wheelwright to the amount of a Great Many Thousand pounds sterling is too obvious to be disputed even by Mr. Willard himself—And your Mem^{o} begs leave to assure y^{r} Excellency & Honours, that he will make a point of it, and most punctually comply with the Conditions of the Grant of said Lands or the charter as it is otherwise called with all convenient speed (or as your Excellency & Honours shall direct) in order to make payment of the vast sums (as far as these Lands will go) to the multitude of the said Nathaniels creditors in proportion, for which reasons, if the said Mr. Willard has not the native modesty to pray that his most extraordinary misconceived pt^{n} may be by him withdrawn, your Mem^{o} has the Modest assurance to hope that your Excellency & Hon^{rs} will dismiss the same as groundless & unreasonable

Your Mem^{o} is also attorney to Mr. Joseph Wheelwright one of the sons & heirs of the afores^{d} Jno Wheelwright dec'd and which s^{d} Joseph has amply paid a person in New Hampshire Governm^{t} to do the needful and to which your Mem^{o} will have a peculiar regard & care &c which said Joseph Wheelwright is now in London

All which is submitted by Samuel Swift attorney to s^{d} Jo^{s} Warren Adm^{r}

Boston July 3^{d} 1771.

Col. Josiah Willard's Petition for sundry rights in Chesterfield.

Province of
New Hampshire

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General Governor and Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province aforesaid and vice Admiral of the same In Council

The petition of Josiah Willard of Winchester Esq[r] Humbly shews

That there are sundry Grantees (viz) John Wheelwright, Joseph Wheelwright, Jeremiah Wheelwright, Nathaniel Wheelwright, Thomas Paine John Annes & Oliver Butler of a Tract of Land, charter'd and granted by the Governor of the province aforesaid with advice of his Majesty's Council and Incorporated into a Township by the name of Chesterfield and which said Tract was by Charter to be held and enjoyed in severalty and divided to and amongst the Grantees in equal shares and upon their separate performance of sundry conditions and reservations particularly mentioned and stipulated in the said Grant, and tho' the Time prefixed in the said Grant for the performance of the said Conditions has been elapsed, yet so it is that at this Time neither the residence of the Grantees above mentioned nor the cultivation of the Lands, have been as yet performed but only such part as hath been done at the expence of your petition[r] Wherefore he humbly Prays that the forfeiture of the said Lands may be exacted and the said Shares regranted to him or that he may be reimbursed the charge he hath been at in paying the rates and Taxes & clearing some parts of the said Land. And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

JOSIAH WILLARD.

Portsm[o] 26th March 1771.

CHESWICK—now LITTLETON.

[This town was first granted by the name of *Cheswick*, Nov. 17, 1766; regranted by the name of *Apthorp*, Jan. 18, 1770; the territory was divided, Nov. 4, 1784, into the towns of Littleton and Dalton. ED.]

Petition of Moses Little and Associates.

Province of
New Hampshire

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General,

Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province aforesaid & to the Honorable his Majestys Council for said Province

The Memorial of Moses Little of Newbury in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and his Associates humbly Sheweth that your Memorrialists having for a valuable consideration purchased a Certain Tract of Land by the Name of Cheswick being in said Province of New Hampshire, and formally Granted to a Number of Persons by the Honorable Benning Wentworth Esqr late Governor of said Province of New Hampshire by Charter under the Great Seal of said Province, which Charter has very lately Expired, And that Your Memorialists have already at a very Great Expence begun a Settlement on said Tract of Land, which they were Determined to Prosecute, but apprehending it necessary for their future security, that said Charter be extended which your Memorialists are willing to Surrender would most humbly pray that said Charter may be extended and that the Bounds of said Cheswick, which in said Charter are not fully Ascertained, may be now made Certain, and may be the Same as are mentioned in the Plan of Survey herewith Exhibited which include a much less Quantity of Land, than was by your Memorialists, at ye Time of their said Purchase, Suppos'd to be Contained within said Township of Cheswick, your Memorialists therefore Relying on the wonted Goodness of your Excellency and Honors most humbly pray that s'd Charter may be Extended the usual Time and that the Bounds as pray'd for may be Established, and as in Duty bound shall ever pray

MOSES LITTLE.

Portsmouth Jany 15th 1770

CHICHESTER.

[This town was incorporated 20 May 1727. A Copy of the Charter is the first paper under this head. ED.]

CHARTER.

GEORG by the Grace of God of Great Britaine France and Ireland Kinge Defender of the faith &c.

To all People to whom these Presents shall Come Greetting Know y^{ee} that wee of our Speciall Knowledge and meer motion, for the Due Encouragement of Settling a new Plantation By and with the advice and Consent of our Councill have given and granted and by these Presents as far as in us lies do give and Grant in Equall Shares unto Sundry of our beloved Subjects whose names are Enter'd in a Schedule hereunto annexed that Inhabit or shall Inhabit within the said grant within our Provence of Newhampshire all that Tract of land within the following bounds viz:

LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

to begin on the South West side of the Town of Barnstead and from thence Running South Westerly on the head of the Town Nottingham untill Eight miles be accomplished and then Northwest Eight miles then North East Eight miles. Then South East by the said Town of Barnstead to the Place where it first begun and that the same be a Town Corporate by the name of CHICHESTER to the Persons affore said for Ever To Have and To hold the s^{d} land to the s^{d} Grantees and their heirs and assigns for Ever and to such associates as thay shall admitt upon the following Conditions (1) That the Proprietors within three years Buld or cause to be built Sixty Dwelling houses and settle families in the same and Cleane three acres of Ground fitt for Planting or Mowing and that Each Proprietor Pay his Proportion of the Town Charges when and so offten as occasion Shall Require the same (2) that a Meetting house be Built for ye Publick Worship of God within the Tearm of fore years

3d that upon Default of any Particular Proprietor in Complying with the Conditions of this Charter upon his Part Such Delinquent Proprietor shall forfeit his share of the s^{d} land to the other Proprietors which shall be Disposed of according to the major Vote of the s^{d} Proprietors att a Legall Meetting

4. That a Proprietors Share be Reserved for a Parsonage and another for the first Minister of the Gospell that Shall be their Settled and ordained and another Proprietors share for the Benefitt of a Schoole in the s^{d} Town Provided nevertheless that the Peace with the Indians continue for the Space of three years but if itt Should happen that a Warr with the Indians should Commence before the Expiration of the affores^{d} Tearm of three years that then the s^{d} Term of three years shall be allowed the Proprietors affter the Expiration of the warr for the Performance of the affore^{sd} Conditions Rendering and Paying therefore to us our heirs and Successors or such officer or officers as shall be appointed to Receve the same the Annuall Quit Rentt or acknowleigement of one Pound of Hemp in the s^{d} Town on the Last Wednesday in march yearly for Ever if Demanded Reserving also unto us our heirs and successors all Mast Trees growing on s^{d} Tract of land according to acts of Parlyment in that Case made and Provided and for the better order Rull and government of the s^{d} Town Wee do by these Presents for our selves our heirs and successors Grant unto the s^{d} Men and Inhabitants or those that shall Inhabit sd. Town that yearly and Every yeare upon the Second Wednesday in March for Ever shall meett to Elect and Chuse by the major Part of the Proprietors then Present Constables Select men and other Town officers according to the laws and usages of our affors'd Provence with Power Preveleidges and authority as other Town officers within our afforesaid Provence have and Injoy and for the Notifiing and calling of the first Town meetting wee do hereby appoint Petter Weare Esqr. John Sanborn and Jacob Freese to be the first Select men and thay to Continue in s^{d} Respective office as Select men untill the second Wednesday in the month of march which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twenty Eight and untill other Select men shall be Chosen and appointed in their stead in such manner as in these Presents Expressed. In Testimony whereof we have cased the Seale of our said Provence to be hereunto afixed Witness John Wentworth Esqr our Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chiefe in and over our said Provence att our Town of Portsmouth in said Provence of New hampshire the Twenty-eth Day of May in the thirteenth yeare of our Reigne Anno Domine 1727.

JOHN WENTWORTH.

By order of his Hon^{r} Lt Govr with advice of ye Counsell
Richard Waldron
Clark of the Counsell
A True Coppy of Chichester Chartter Examined by me
Willm Staniford Clark of Chichester

Chichester Petition.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr Commander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and to ye Honourable the Councell of the s^{d} Province

The Peticion of the Proprietors of the township of Chichester in the Province afores^{d} Humbly Sheweth

That your Peticioners In ye year 1727 had a track of Land Granted to them; Now called by ye name of Chichester; in order to erect a township and make a settlement thereon, upon such Conditions and Limitations as are mensioned in ye Charter of said township; But your Peticioners meeting with more truble & Dificulty in Runing ye Bounds and Clearing A Road up to the said town than was Expected have Not as yet Been able fully to Comply with the Conditions afores^{d}. Your Peticioners therefore Humbly Pray that your Excellency and the Honourable Board Would Be pleased to Grant them a further term of time in order to their being Enabled fully to Compleat ye settlement of said township and your Peticioners shall ever pray &c

May ye 6th 1731.

In Coun May 6th 1731 Read
Voted that the Petitioners have one year more added to the term allow'd for performance of the Conditions of the Charter
R. Waldron Secy
I assent to ye above vote of Council
J. Belcher
May 7th 1731

Nathl Weare
Benj^{a} Gambling
John Gilman
Joshua Winget
Barth^{o} Thing
Richard Jenness
Theodore Atkinson
John Samburn
Ebenezer Stevens
Thos Peirce
for y^{m} selves & In behalf of the rest

Petition of the Town of Chichester, 28 Feb., 1733, for confirmation of charter.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England and Vice-admiral of the same And to the Honourable His Majesty's Council of said Province of New Hampshir

The Petition of the Proprietors of the Township of Chiches-

ter in the Province of New Hampshire afores[d] Most Humbly Sheweth

That in the year of our Lord 1727 there was granted a Charter of a Certain Tract of land in New Hampshire afores'd by the name of Chichester unto a Number of Persons whose Names are in the Schedule unto said Charter annexed and that the Proprietors of s[d] Township not having complyed with the Conditions mentioned in said Charter some time since Petitioned to your Excellency and the Honourable the Council for a longer time than mentioned in said Charter, to perform what was therein required of them to do, which your Excellency and the Honourable Council were pleased to Grant, and that by reason of the distance of said Township, and the Difficultys that attend Settling and Cultivating Wilderness land your Petitioners have not as yet in all things complyed with the Conditions of said Charter tho' they have done considerable towards it and been at a great Charge for what they have done and are daily endeavoring to comply with the whole and that the Meeting house in said Town of Chichester together with sundry dwelling houses were the Summer past accidentally consumed by fire

Now your Petitioners most humbly beg that your Excellency and the Honourable His Majestys Council for the reasons above mentioned would in your great Wisdom and Goodness be pleased to confirm the afores[d] Charter unto your Petitioners and also to grant him further time for the fullfilling the Conditions thereof and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

JABEZ SMITH
TH[O] PIERCE
} Committee in behalf of the Proprietors

Petition for liberty to assess taxes.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor and Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon[bl]e his Majesty's Counsel & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened the 27[th] Day of March Anno Dom. 1760

The Humble Petition of Thomas Westbrook Waldron and Francis Jenness as a Committee of the Proprietors of Chichester in said Province Shews

That for want of a Proper General Law for Enabling Proprietors of unsettled Townships to transact their affairs Relating to making said Settlem[ts] (the said Proprietors not having obtained a Particular Act in their favour) the Business of said

Settlement is very backward many of said Proprietors not having Drawn their Lots others in arrears for past Taxes and Some Resting on their Oars leave the burthen of settling said Township to those who are Voluntary in doing the duty Knowing that their Estates there will be Raised in Value by the Settlement tho' they Contribute nothing towards it.

That such a Situation of affairs is not only a Prejudice to Particular Proprieties & Townships but to the Province in General by Retarding many Settlements which long since would have been made and much more Land Cultivated than there is at Present in this Province had there been a General Law by which such backward Selfish Proprietors who would Gladly Raise Estates at other Peoples Expence might have been Compelled to have done their duty towards making the Settlem^{ts} in a Summary way as the affairs of Towns are Transacted Especially Respecting the Payment of Taxes

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that they may have Liberty to bring in a Bill Enforcing the Payment of Taxes in arrearage duly assessed as also such as shall hereafter be so made obliging also such as neglect to Draw their Lots to do it & in Default of that or neglecting any other matters which shall be Granted & agreed upon at any Legal Meeting of said Proprietors the Lands or part sufficient for this Purpose of such Delinquent Proprietors be subjected to sale and also that there be a Tax of three — Pounds on Each Right for three years if needed to carry on and make the said Settlement without any further Delay but what is unavoidable by the War and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c

THO^{S} W^{K} WALDRON
FRANCIS JENNES.

In Council March 27—1760
read & ordered to be sent down
to the Honble Assembly
Theod. Atkinson Secy

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

On the last page of MS. Vol. I. "Town Papers" is a Paper, labeled "Draught of a charter for Coulerain, Dec. 1726." The bounds given by the Charter, are as follows: "Begin—at Rochester northerly Corner bounds, at or near Salmon-fall river, running along Rochester head line, keeping the course of that line till twelve miles be accomplished, and from each end of the said twelve mile line to run north west half a point northerly ten miles, and then to run a straight line from the end of one ten mile line to the end of the other, which will be parallel to Rochester head line, first mentioned, and that the same be corporate by ye name of Coulerain."

The editor is not aware that any such town ever existed in New Hampshire.

VOLUME II.

CONCORD TO EXETER.

CONCORD.

[This town was first visited by the English in 1638 or '39' It was granted by Massachusetts, 17 January, 1725–6, and was settled in 1727. It was then called PENY COOK. It was incorporated by the Province of Massachusetts in 1733, by the name of Rumford, and remained under that government until 1741. It received the name of Concord by the Charter which was granted during the administration of Benning Wentworth, 7 June, 1765. ED.]

Petition from Ebenezer Eastman for protection from the Indians.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief and Captain General in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire The Honorable his Majesty's Council for said Province and the House of Representatives met on the twelfth day of March 1746 upon a special Convention

The Petition of Ebenezer Eastman of Penny Cook so called in s^{d} Province in behalf of himself and the other In habitants there Most humbly Shews—

That they are in great danger of and much exposed unto the Indian Enemy and are in daily fear that they shall be attacked by them and such a number as will be too many for them unless they have some help—

That the Inhabitants there, are about to quit the Place unless they can be protected That on Saturday night last being ye Eighth day of March Inst. there was a discovery of an Indian near Canterbury Fort, which has caused much fear and an apprehension that there is a Body of the Enemy waiting an opportunity to do mischief

Wherefore Your Petitioner most humbly Prays your Excellency and Honours to consider of this Petition and to Grant such Relief as in your great wisdom you shall judge meet and proper and your Petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever pray &c

EBENEZER EASTMAN.

March 12th 1746

Province N. Hamp. March 12th 1746.
In Council at a Special Session of Genl Assembly
read & ordered to be sent down to the Convened members
Theodore Atkinson

Copy of Rumford Petition, June 21, 1744, for defence against the Indians.

To his Excy B. W. Esqr. Capt. Genl and Govr in chief, in and over His Majtys Province of N. H. in N. Engl. The Hon; the coun and House of Represenves in Genl Court Convened

The memorial & Petition of ye Inhabitants of the town of Rumford in sd Prov. Humbly *Sheweth* That ye sd Town has been settled by His Majesty's Subjects abt. 17 yrs. and a Gospel Minister ordained there abt 12—That the Settlers had an eye at enlarging his Majestys Dominions by going into the Wilderness as well as at promoting their own Interest; That many Thousd Pounds have been spent in Clearing and Cultivating the Lands there, and many more in erecting mansion houses out-Houses, Barns and Fences besides a large additional sum in Fortifications lately made, by His Excy the Govrs order; That the Buildings are compact, and properly form'd for Defence, and well situated for a Barrier, being on Merrimack River, abt. 15 miles below the Confluence of Winnipishoky and Pemissawpset Rivers, both wch are main Gang Ways of the Canadians, to the Frontiers of this Province; That the breaking up of the Settlemt will not only ruin the Memorialists, but in their humble opinion greatly disserve His Majestys Interest, by Encouraging his Enemies to Encroach on his derelict Dominion, and be also hurtful to the Prov; by contracting its Borders, and drawing the War nearer the Capital; That it was by a long and importunate Intercession of this Province and not of the Memorialists seeking that they are cast under the immediate care of this Govemt wch yy apprehend gives them so much the better right to its protection that they have hitherto cheerfully paid their proportionate Part of the public Taxes, assigned 'em by the General Court even without being priviledged with a Representative in the Said Court; That as War is already declared Agst France and a rupture with ye Indians hourly expected, your Memorialists unless they have Speedy help will be soon obliged to evacuate ye Place, how disserviceable soever it may be to the Crown, dishonorable to the Goverment hurtful to the Province and ruinous to themselves. Wherefore they most humbly Supplicate your Excy the Hon. Counel and House of represenves to take the Premises into your wise and mature Consideration and to grant them such seasonable relief as may enable 'em to maintain

His Majestys Dominions in so well situated a Barrier and so ancient and well regulated a Settlem[t] as well as to secure their own Lives and Fortunes ag[st] the Ravage and Devastation of a blood-thirsty and Merciless Enemy. And y[e] Memorialists as in Duty bound will Ever pray—

Petition for aid, by Benjamin Rolfe, Esq.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Capt. General and Governour in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England the Hon[bl e] the Council and House of Representatives in General Court convened

The Memorial and Petition of Benjamin Rolfe in the Name and Behalf of the Inhabitants of the Town of Rumford in said Province Humbly Sheweth That the said Town has been Settled by His Majesty's Subjects about Eighteen Years and a Gospel Minister ordained there upwards of Fourteen

That the Settlers had an eye at enlarging His Majesty's Dominions by going into the Wilderness as well as at their own Interest That Many Thousand Pounds have been spent in clearing and cultivating the Lands there and many more in erecting Mansion Houses Fortifications, Out Houses, Barns and Fences. That the Buildings are mostly compact and properly form'd for Defence and well situated for a Barrier, being on Merrimack River about a Days march below the Confluence of Winipishoky and Pemissawasset Rivers both which are main gang Ways of the Canadians to the Frontiers of this Province and within a Weeks march at farthest from a very strong Fort built within these few years by the French at Crown Point which will be a Place of constant Retreat and Resort for the French and Indians in all their Expeditions against the English Settlements. That the breaking up of the Settlement will not only ruin the Memorialists but in their humble Opinion greatly disserve His Majesty's Interest by encouragin His Enemies to encroach on His derelict Dominions and be also hurtful to the Province by contracting its Borders and drawing the War nearer to the Capital. That it was by a long and importunate Intercession of the Province (and not of the Memorialists seeking) that they are cast under the immediate Care of this Government, which they apprehend gives them so much the better Right to its Protection That as War has been declared against France for some Time and a Rupture with the Indians has been hourly expected, many of the Inhabitants of said Town, by Reason of their being so exposed to imminent Danger from their Enemies have already moved from said Town and the Season of the Year being such as to give the

Indians an opportunity of disturbing the Frontiers and the Dutch Mohawks having lately given occasion to fear that they would Joyn in a Warr against His Majestys settlements as mentioned in some late News Papers your Memorialists unless they have speedy help will be soon oblidged to Evacuate said Town how disserviceable soever it may be to the Crown dishonorable to the Government, hurtful to the Province and ruinous to themselves—Wherefore your memorialists most humbly supplicate your Excellency, the Honourable Council and House of Representatives to take the Premises into your wise and mature Consideration and to grant them such constant and seasonable aids both with Respect to men and Military Stores as may enable them to maintain His Majesty's Dominions in so well situated a Barrier, and so ancient and well regulated a Settlement as well as to secure their own Lives and Fortunes against the Ravage and Devastations of a Blood thirsty and Merciless Enemy and your Memorialists as in Duty bound will ever pray

BENJAMIN ROLFE.

Portsmouth April ye 30th 1745.

Petition of Inhabitants of Rumford, 1747.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt. General & Governour of His Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England To the Honourable the Council & House of Representatives of s^d^ Province.

The Petition of ye Subscribers Inhabitants of Rumford in s^d^ Province Humbly sheweth That we have great Reason to fear a Speedy attack from the Enemy with a force too great to be match^d^ by us with what Assistance we att present (thro your Excellencys & Honours great Goodness) have from ye Province—That the plain and Evident tracks of a Considerable Number was discovered by our Scout ye last week. That Guns have been heard both here and att Contoocook upon ye Sabbath & other Times & Places where it is certain no English were. That ye News of a Formidable Armament sent from Canada to Crown Point obtained such credit with the Government of ye Massachusetts Bay as Induced them to provide a prodigious Reinforcement to strengthen their Western Barrier—That such is our Situation that as ye Rivers Hudson & Connecticut lie most exposed to Incursions from Crown Point so ours is ye next, and the experience of this whole war has Taught us that whenever any Smart attack has been made upon any of ye Settlements on Connecticut River the Enemy have never failed of sending a considerable Number to visit our

River—That while our ordinary business was Hoeing we could work in such large companies as not be in Such Imminent Danger of being massacred by ye enemy, which now Haying and English Harvest comes on will be Impracticable with out vast Detriment to ye whole & utter Ruin to some. We therefore beg of your Excellency & Honours to take our deplorable case into Consideration & extend your compassion towards & grant us such a further Reinforcement as you may think in your great wisdom our case requires & your Petitioners shall as in Duty Bound Ever pray &c

Rumford July 13, 1747.

Ebenezer Hall	Nath^a^ Abbott
Jeremiah Stickney	Joseph Easman
John Chandler	Samwill Easteman
Abiel Chandler	Abraham Kimball
George Hull	Samuel Grey
Edward Abbott	George Abbott
Benjamin Abbott	John Merrill
Joseph Ordway	Joseph Hall
Samson Colbe	David Foster
Aaron Stevens	Obediah Foster
Timothy Bradley	Hanery Pudney
Joseph Farnum	Patrick Garving
Isaac Walker Jun.	James Peters
James Abbott	Zebdiah Farnem
Amos Abbott	James Farnum
Ephrnam Faram	James Osgood
Joseph Pudney	Lot Colbe
Ebenezer Eastman	Moses Merrill
Henry Lovejoy	William Pudney
Joseph Eastman	Isaac Wakler
Jeremiah Eastman	Timothy Walker
Nathaniel Eastman	David Evens
Amos Eastman	Richard Haselton
Ebenezer Eastman Jr.	Jacob Shut
Samuel Shepherd	Samuel Putney
Joseph Simonds	Nathaniel West
Ebenezer Virgin	Abraham Colby
Philip Eastman	Matthew Standly
Ephraim Carter	John Putney
Ezra Carter	Daniel Chase
Stephen Farington	Daniel Chase Junr.

In Council July 15th 1747.
read & ordered to be sent Down to The Honble House
Theodore Atkinson Sec.

Petition of Capt. Eben^r^ Eastman.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief and Captain General in and over the Province of New Hamp^r^ The Honble his majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd

The memorial and Petition of Ebenezer Eastman for him-

self and in behalf of the Inhabitants of Rumford So called most humbly Shews—That your Memorialist in a most gratefull manner owns and acknowledges the Goodness and Kindness of your Excellency and Honours in the late allowance of thirty men in Guarding and Defending the Inhabitants of s^d^ Rumford and other places thereabouts. That the time for which s^d^ thirty men were allowed is expired and they have been dismiss'd some days—That your Memorialist humbly conceives that the time of Indian Harvest drawing nigh will be a time of considerable Danger from the Indian Enemy (if not from the French also) wherefore he prays if it may be tho't necessary by your Excellency and Honours that there may be a further allowance of a number of men for the Safe Guard of the s^d^ Inhabitants and such a number and for such time as to your Excellency and Honours shall seem meet and your Petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever pray &c.

EBENEZER EASTMAN.

Sepr 23^d^ 1747.

Joseph Pudney's Petition.

Prov. of
New Hamp

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Govr &c. The Hon^le^ His Majestys Council & House of Rep^ves^ in Gen^al^ Assembly conven'd at Ports^o^ May 1748.

The Petition of Joseph Pudney of Rumford most Humbly Sheweth That your Petit^r^ the Last Summer at Rumford afore^sd^ While in his Majesty's Service was Wounded by the Indians, who by their shot Broak his arm & the bones much Shattered. That altho the Wound is healed up yet he is unable to do any Work to Earn his Livelyhood, & his arm so weak, that he's unfit for scouting &c. That he is able to do the duty of a Garrison Souldier, and as such are wanted in the s^d^ Town of Rumford he humbly Conceives in that way he might be so far serviceable as to earn his living.

Wherefore your Pet^r^ most humbly prays that he may be held in his Majesty's service and posted at the s^d^ town as a Garrison Souldier And y^r^ Pet^r^ as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray

EBENEZER EASTMAN
in Behalf of ye Pet^r^

In Council May 17, 1748
read recommended &
ordered to be sent Down to the Honble House
Theo. Atkinson Secy.

Prov of New Hampshir } In the House of Representatives 28th May 1748.

Voted That in Answer to ye within Petition mentioned Joseph Pudney be posted as a Soldier at ye garrison at sd Rumford til ye last of September next

D. Peirce Clk

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred
Theo. Atkinson Secy.

Eodem die
Consented to
B. Wentworth.

Rev. Timo Walker's letter to Archibald Stark.

Sr. Yours without Date I received last Night Nine oth clock, Informing me that you had a visit from a committee of ye Honourable Assembly of ye Province respecting ye Road thro Mr. McNeals Field desiring that our People would sign a Petion for ye sd Road to the sd Assembly as they had already to ye General Sessions and send it to Portsmouth by next Monday Ten of ye clock, now altho I am fully of opinion that ye want of yt Road will in a few years Time be of vastly more Damage to ye Publick than the whole of McNeals Field & that every Person up this way who is at all acquainted therewith will readily sign such a Petition representing ye same in ye strongest light possible yet the Notice is so short that no such thing can be prosecuted to any effect therefore ye only way left you is to pray for Longer Time wch is so reasonable that I cant think one word can be objected agst it & if that be granted I shall be ready to doe any thing within my power not only to serve you & ye Publick but my self also in ye affair I remain your hearty Friend & Oblidged Servt

Timothy Walker

Rumford July 7th 1753.
Mr. Archibald Stark.

Petition of Ezra Carter in behalf of Rumford.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, The Honble His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened July 14th 1756

The Petition of Ezra Carter on behalf of himself & the Inhabitants of the Late District of Rumford so called in said Province Humbly sheweth. That the said Inhabitants apprehend that since the expiration of said District Act, they have not had the Priviledges which other Towns in this Province enjoy. That they could not Raise money for the Support of their minister, their Poor, the Repairing of High Ways, or maintaining a School (which the youth there much need) or to act in any Political manner whatsoever for want of which

Priviledges the said Inhabitants think they have been great Suffers.

Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays your Excellency & Honours would Compassionate our Case and Incorporate said Plantation by its Boundaries or grant such other Relief as in your wisdom you may see meet & your Petitioner Shall as in duty bound ever pray

EZRA CARTER.

In Council July 15th 1756
read & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble House
Theod. Atkinson Secy.

Letter from Jeremiah Stickney, Esq., relating to difficulties with Bow.

Rumford March 19th 1761.

SIR.

I have received the Order from his Excellency & General Assembly Appointing An Inventory to be taken of the Poles & Rateable Estate in the Province endorsed to the Select men of Bow by the hand of Mr Carr together with a verbal Order to deliver it to me in Case he could find no Such Select men & have conferred with those of my Neighbors that I could handily come at upon the purport & design thereof & I find them all concurring with me in a deep sense of manifold difficulties we labour under for want of Power to regulate Society according to manner of other Towns & Districts, which if was offered us we should readily Embrace as well for our own Sakes as an Inclination to pay all dutifull regard to the Orders of the Government—we never understood that we had power to Act to Ordinary Purposes of Regulating society under the Incorporation of Bow in which if we were mistaken twas our unhappiness which admit to be the Case we apprehend ourselves at present utterly destitute of any such Power for want of a Legal Meeting which we know no possible way of obtaining without an Express Order of the Honourable Court which if they should see meet to issue we shall pay all ready obedience & proceed to Carry into Execution the Design of this Order if time be allowed for it, which if should be the Case would humbly suggest a necessity of ascertaining the Limits by which we are to be Circumscribed if we might Choose we should much incline to be bounded as the district of Rumford was whilst it subsisted —but if that be not Granted & it is the Pleasure of the Court that we Should act as the Town of Bow we apprehend that the same necessity Occurs not only because Pembrook is Lately taken Partly out of Bow but also for that their Line as we have been informed, has been Run very differently by their own Committees & I believe that no one of us Knows either of the Lines in all the parts of it & however we may dispute any or all these Lines whilst we are defending our Properties in the Civil Courts of Judicature (which we mean still to reserve to ourselves the right of Doing) Yet we never did or shall dispute the Power of the Government to make Bow Lie where they please to whose Resolution we shall pay ready Obedience when we Know it. Without which we Know of no way in our Power at present wherein we can contribute to carrying into Execution this order Unless the Honourable Court should see Cause to appoint some Person or Persons to take the proposed Inventory amongst us or the Select men of Canterbury shall ap-

doint some Persons to said Business which is in their power as we Construe the Order in either of which Cases we shall all suitable Compliance. S^r please to Communicate this Letter if you see fit to the Honourable Assembly not only as my private sentiments by so far as I know the united sense of all our people.

I am with all due regards

Yr. Obed^t Hum. Servt

JEREMIAH STICKNEY.

P. S. if the Hon. Court should see Cause to put us in a way of Regulation, among the Reasons against any of the Lines of Bow being Our limits, this is the Principal that etheir of the Said Lines would leave some few of our Inhabitants without our Incorporation which we would be glad to have & who would Choose to belong to us & which no other Society wants, but would take a much larger Number of the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton which they Can very ill spare & which we don't want & would be against the inclination of the People

Sr. Yrs.

J. S.

Capt. Thomas Parker, Litchfield.

Timothy Walker's Petition in behalf of Rumford.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire. The Hon'ble his Majestys Council & house of Representatives in General Assembly Convened, April 11th 1764

The humble Petition of Timothy Walker on behalf of himself and the Inhabitants of Rumford (so called) in said Province.

Sheweth, That the Affairs of the said Inhabitants (so far as relates to Town matters have been in great confusion Ever since the year 1749 for want of the Power which they had till then enjoyed ever since the year 1741 by the District act (so called) which this Hon'ble Court say in July 1746 when it was reviewed had been found Convenient both for the Government of this Province in General and also the Inhabitants incorporated thereby in particular.

That altho' it has been pretended that they might still have Enjoyed the same priviledges (as Inhabitants of Bow) yet they never understood matters) in that light. And for this their opinion and Practice consequential thereupon they humbly conceive they would give reasons which would be satisfactory to this Court were they permitted—But to pass over all this—This Power or the Exercise of it has been lost to them (if ever they had it) ever since March 1756 for want of a first meeting.

That by the year 1760 they were so heartily tired of such an unsettled state that they would have been glad to have acted Even under the Incorporation of Bow, if they could altho

highly inconvenient for them as it blended part of three towns togetner whose interests had always been separate & would Consequently be apt to create strife and contention That this Court was apprized of their utter Incapacity of doing Corporate act (even as Bow) by a Letter signed Jeremiah Stickney in behalf of himself and others now on file togeather with their dutiful & ready disposition to Comply with every motion of this Court to the utmost of their Power.

That the said Inhabitants conceive themselves greatly aggrieved by a late act of this Government imposing a heavy Tax on the Inhabitants of Bow as arrears &c a Tax which Nobody had Power to assess and collect at ye time when ye s'd arrearages became due and which if now done must be laid in many Instances on wrong Persons; That what they suffered for want of the Powers [they] had enjoyed by the first mentioned District act was unspeakably more to their Damage than to have paid their Proportion of the Province Expence.

That the incapacity complained of all along still continues and yet the People are subjected to pay their part of the Current Charge but no body has power to assess or Collect it. They therefore most humbly Pray that your Excellency and Honors will take the matters complained of under Consideration and either revive the said District Act so far as relates to Rumford or (which wo'd be much more satisfactory to the said Inhabitants) Incorporate them by a standing act and by their former Known Boundaries that the said Inhabitants may be abated at least one half part of said arrearages. And that with respect to their part of the Current Charge of the Province they may be subjected to pay no more than their just proportion with the other Towns in this Province & Grant them such other Relief as in your great wisdom and goodness you shall see meet. And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

TIMOTHY WALKER.

In Council April 13th 1764
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon'ble Assembly
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Province of New Hampshire } In the house of Representatives May 3^d^, 1764. This Petition being read,

Voted That what the said town of Bow is now in arrears for the Province tax be collected agreeable to an act passed the second of June 1763 that the Inhabitants settled on the lands between said Bow, Canterbury & New Hopkinton (except such as are already polled off to Pembroke & New Hopkinton) be taxed & pay their proportion thereof & that the inhabitants of Bow with the inhabitants on all the lands between said Bow, Canterbury Boscawen & New Hopkinton except such as are already Polled off to Pembroke & New Hopkinton meet together some time in the month of June next at Bow & (choose all necessary officers for assessing & Collecting the annual province Tax & for trans-

acting all other town affairs & afterwards some time in the Month of March annually untill further orders of the Gen[l] Assembly & that he have liberty to bring in a bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk.

Petition relating to taxation, &c., 1764.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor & Commander in Chief of His Majesties Province of New Hampshire, To the Hon. His Majesties Council of said Province, & General Court Convened October the second day Anno Dom. 1764

Whereas Edward Russel & others have petitioned your Excellency & Honours to be freed from paying any part of those arrearages of Taxes ordered to be assessed upon Bow & whereas so much Notice was taken of said Petition as that the Petitioners were ordered to serve us the Subscribers with a Copy thereof, in order that we may shew Cause, if any we have why the prayer thereof should not be granted

These are therefore to inform your Excellency & Honours that there are Forty one Poles with the Estates which they possess within the Limits of Bow as described in the Act of Taxation referred to in the said Petition which are exactly similar to these Petitioners, and also Sixty or more Poles with the Estate which they now possess which were Minors & so not liable to be Taxed when the Rates were supposed to be due for which this Tax is Ordered, but have since come of age & so Rated as fr[m] the List appears.

To Ballance which increase there has been a yearly drain of Inhabitants from us it is out of our Power to ascertain the Number but we are well persuaded from what we Know of the affair that if it could be done it would bear some near proportion to the advance—These have all left the Town, & many of them the Province in each of which Cases they are equally exempt from our power of Taxing them. And we humbly submit it to your wise determination whether there is not the same reason that these other persons should be freed as that the petitioners should Which if the Case, we are well assured that it will be absolutely impossible for the small remainder to pay the whole of said Tax.

We are Your Excellencys & Honours most Humble Servants.

Ezra Carter, John Chandler } Assessors of Bow

Ephraim Blunt, William Moor, Isaac White } Selectmen of Pembroke

Petition of Concord to be annexed to Hillsborough County.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Capt General Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire the Hon^bl^^e^ his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened the 18th day of Jany Anno Domini 1774

The Petition of Andrew McMillan Esqr. Agent For the Inhabitants of the Town of Concord in the County of Rockingham and Province aforesaid, Humbly sheweth

That said Town of Concord is Forty miles from Exeter and Fifty five miles from Portsmouth where the Courts of Justice are held for said County of Rockingham, and the Inhabitants of said Concord very little if any thing benefited by the late Division of this Province into Five Counties.

Secondly that many of the Inhabitants of the Towns in the north part of the County of Hillsborough have applied to your Petitioner's Constituents and earnestly desired that the inconveniences they labour under may be represented to your Excellency and Honours by a Petition which they say are

First as there is but one Superior Court of Judicature in a year held in said County of Hillsborough and Prisoners committed for capital Crimes must lay in Goal sometimes Eleven nine or six months according to the time they are committed before it can be known whether they are or are not guilty; and in case they should be acquitted your Petitioners constituents, humbly apprehend it a great Pity that they have suffered so long and if found guilty they thing it a grievous burthen to maintain such bad Subjects so long at the expense of poor, honest industrious beginners in the Wilderness.

Secondly Creditors in General in said County of Hillsborough who incline to sue at any time except July term in said County are obliged to indorse their notes &c over to Persons who live in the County of Rockingham or other Counties & some to the Massachusetts and the expense is as great as before they were a County. Thirdly the place where the Courts are held in said County of Hillsborough is at such a Distance from them that they are of opinion that the Inhabitants of the south part of said County will not oppose their having Justice done in that respect.

Fourthly that the situation of the Town of Concord is such that it will accommodate all the Inhabitants of the upper or Northerly part of the said County of Hillsborough and give them general satisfaction

Therefore the said Inhabitants of the Town of Concord by their said Agents humbly pray your Excellency & Honours that said Town of Concord may be annexed to the County of Hillsborough and that there may be annually held there one

Superior Court of Judicature one Inferior Court of common pleas one Court of general Sessions of the peace for said County or otherwise act in the premises as your Excellency & Honours Wisdom for the benefit of his Majesty's Subjects shall direct and your Petitioners by their said Agents as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

ANDW McMILLAN

Portsmo Janry 18th 1774.

In Council Jany. 19, 1774.
Read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly
Geo King D. Secy

In the House of Representatives Jany 19th 1774
Upon reading the foregoing Petition

Voted that the Petitioner be heard thereon on the third day of the Sitting of the General Assembly after the first day of March next and that in the meantime the Petitioner cause the Substance of this Petition and order of Court thereon to be printed three weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazette that any person may have opportunity to appear & Shew cause why the prayer of said Petition Shou'd not be Granted

J. Wentworth Speaker

In Council Jany 20, 1774.
The within vote was read & concurrd

Geo King, D. Sec.

CONWAY.

[Conway began to be settled in 1764; the grant of the township was made, Oct. 1, 1765. ED.]

CONWAY, &c.

A list of the original Proprietors of Conway, the Number of the Lots by Whom Claimed, the Lots settled, under whom they first Improved, the Lots Improved, the Lots not Improved.

Original Proprietors	No	by whom claim'd	the State of the Rights
The° Atkinson Esqr	67	David Page	Settled 2 Familys under Col Frye
Asa Foster	64	John Osgood	D° First Improved under Brown
Reuben Kimble	63	Joshua Kelley	D° First Improved under Brown
Josiah Johnson	53	Thos Merril Esqr	Settled under Brown 2 Familys on this lot
Daniel Foster	46	Timothy Walker	D° Brown began the Improvement on this lot
George Abbot	45	Enoch Webster	Settled under Conway
Perley Ayre	42	Ebenezer Burbank	Settled under Conway
Joshua Heath	50	Joshua Heath	Settled under Brown
Ebenezer Burbank	49	Richard Ayre	Settled under Brown
Peter Parker	48	Richard Ayre	Settled under Brown
Late Governor Farm	51&52	James & Benj^a Osgood	Two Familys settled under Brown
John Mastin	32	Thos Russell	Settled under Conway
James Burley	27	Thos Merrill Esq.	D° about 30 acres improved
Joseph Eastman Junr	14	Richard Eastman	Settled under Conway
Moses Foster Junr	13	Col. Atkinson Settler	one Family on his original Right for this Right
Daniel Warner Esqr to be given to the 1st Minister Lot	69	H. Young Brown	Improved for Pasture some Trees Fell
Peter Livis Esqr	68	Proprietors of Conway	Improved Largely by Brown
	66	R. Hazen Osgood A	Improved by Hazen Osgood 1st improvement under Brown
Andrew McMillin & William Starks	65	Andrew McMillin	Considerable Improvement, the Greatest part was made under Brown
Henry Lovejoy	60	James Osgood	Improvement made under Brown
John Mastin Junr	59	Richard Ayre	2 acres of Trees Fell
Benj^a Ingales	58	Benj^a Ingales	2 acres of Trees Fell

A list of the original Proprietors of Conway, the Number of the Lots by Whom Claimed, the Lots settled under whom they first Improved, the Lots Improved, the Lots not Improved.

[CONTINUED.]

Original Proprietors	No	by whom claim'd	the State of the Rights
Wm Ingalls	57	Wm Nox A	Improved 1st begun under Brown
Joseph Eastman	55	John Webster	House Frame up and Boarded Improvement by Herreman
Obediah Eastman	47	Jeremiah Ferington A	Improvement 1st began By Brown
Moses Foster	44	Abiel Lovejoy A	Improvement under Conway
David Hix	43	Samuel Johnson	Improvement under Conway
John Johnson	39	James Cochran A	Improvement under Conway
John^a^ Warner Esq	38	Jon^a^ Warner Esq A	Improved under Conway
The^o^ Atkinson Jun. Esq.	33	Col. Atkinson	Improved under Conway by cutting some wild Hay
Arthur Bennett	31		
Daniel Ingales	30	Thos Merrill Esqr	Improved and three sons as Settlers
John Ingales	29		
Ephraim Carter	28	Abiather Eastman A	Improvement made
Jon^a^ Stephens	24	Thos Merril Esqr.	Improvement made
David Ayre	18	Andrew McMillan Esqr	One house one bann 10 acres of Plow land
Ephraim Foster	19	D^o^	Cuts about 5 Load Hay one Tennent
John Beverly Watts	17	D^o^	
Thos Merrill	16	D^o^	
Clement March Esqr	54	Clement March Esqr.	Some Improvement by Leanord Herreman
Thos Bragg	12	Richard Ayre	2 acres of Trees Fell
Francis Carr	1	Joseph Odle Exchanged A	for Common land first Improved under Brown
John Tufton Mason Esq.	62	John Tufton Mason Esqr.	No Improvement
Honble John Temple Esqr	61	Honble John Temple Esqr	D^o^
John Lang	56	John Lang	D^o^
Moses Eastman	40	Moses Eastman	Capt. Eastman informs me they cut some hay

Peter Ayre	37	John Knight	No Improvement
William Ladd	36	Tinney	Do
Samuel Merrill	35	Jesse Page	D°
Jacob Ayre	34	Jacob Ayre	
Nath[l] Perley	20	Jacob Ayre	
Samuel Ayre	20	Jacob Ayre	
Richard Ayre	22	Richard Ayre he In	forms me there is hay cut on it.
Henry Sherburne Esqr	15		No Improvements
M. H. Wentworth Esqr	26	M. H. Wentworth	D°
Nath[l] Barrel Esq[r].	25	Said to be Cap[n] Moffets	D°
James Osgood	11	Samuel White & Joseph Eastman	D°
Propigating the Gospel	10		D°
School	9		D°
Samuel Ingales	8	Oliver Peabody	D°
Andrew Bunting	7	Late Governor	D°
Asa Kimble	6	Late Governor	D°
John Carr	5	Dan Foster or Oliver Peabody	D°
Elias Heath	4	Peter Livis Esqr.	there was an addition laid out to this lot, and a Family settled on it
Caleb Foster	3		
Nath Eastman	2		No Improvements
David Carr	21	Andrew McMillin Esq	D°
Gleeb Lot			D°

John Webster one of Col. Frys Proprietors set his house within the line of Conway Col. Frye's Proprietors gave Capt[ns] Walker, Starks, & McMillin 510 Dollars to build a Griss mill and saw mill, and they to have the mills, said mills Fell within Conway the late Governor Gave Starks and McMillin right for the use of the mills, and they proprietors of Conway gave Walker 100 acres round said Mills—There was a Family settled before Conway was Granted—Brown had two Familys settled before Conway was Granted that mov'd away

A List of the Settlers that have Familys in Conway, and by whome Introduced.

3 Settlers by Col. Frye, John Webster, David Page, Samuel Smith
2 at the mills, Timothy Walker, Ezekiel Walker
9 Settlers by Conway Proprietors, Joshua Kelley Ebenezer Burbank, Thoˢ Russell, Thoˢ Merrill Esqr. Richard Eastman, Enoch Webster, John Willson, all own rights, Joseph Kilgore, Tennent to Capⁿ Walker, Anthony Emery, Tennent to Andrew McMillin Esqʳ
7 Familys by Brown, John Osgood, Leonard Harveman, Joshua Heath, John Dolloff Jun. John Dolloff, James Osgood, Benjᵃ Osgood.
1 Family Nathˡ Harriman, settled on a lot with his Father not agreed with Brown or Conway

22 Total

8 Improvements mark'd with the letter A worked on their land last year went away in the Fall to Return in the Spring.

March 21 1771 A True State of Conway according to my best Knowledge

Pr. Henry Young Brown.

Memorial from Fryeburg, Brownfield and Conway, 1776.

To the Honᵇˡᵉ General Court of the Colony of New Hampshire.

The memorial of the Committees of Conway in the County of Grafton, Fryeburg and Brownfield in the County of York, and Colony of Massachusetts Bay united humbly Sheweth that the above said New Plantations Consist of about one Hundred and Thirty Families are Situated at a Place called Pigwacket Upon Saco River which nearly Unites with a Branch of Androscoggin River, about thirty miles northerly from other Settlements, and lay Greatly Exposed to Excurtions of the Savages; by the following natural Communications as frequented by the Indians that come to these Places: one from Chaudire River into Umbagog lake, which Empties itself into Androscoggin river; another from St. Francois River into a branch of Connecticut River; and by that into Androscoggin River; another from Kennebunk River by the way of Muselahmecontucook into Androscoggin River that these Several ways are by water, except a few short Carrying Places, which bring them within twenty miles of these Settlements, that the Greatest part of this twenty miles is water Carriage, that Androscoggin River runs Further to the Northward than the head of Connecticut River. That a party the Last year were sent out from Coos to Reconnoiture the woods over to Umbagog Lake, which Empties into St. Francois River; from thence, they set out Eastwardly in Order to Strike Connecticut River but headed it, and struck Androscoggin River; Come down that River and

come into these Settlements. that Last fall Three men from Col Arnolds Party come into these Settlements by the way of Androscoggin River, four or five Persons from Quebec Last May Come in here by the way of Androscoggin River. from the Above, it appears that when Ever the frontiers are exposed; these Settlements are in danger. that from the Alarming accounts we have lately Received from Canada we think it Necessary to make Preparation for Defence and as it is not likely we can provide ourselves with arms and ammunition without the aid of the Honble Court, therefore the memorialists intreat the favour of the Honble Court to the applications that may be made for the above purpose and for Protection if the Time should come that the frontiers are in Danger, and we as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c

Dated at Fryeburg this 7th Day of July 1776

RICHARD KIMBALL, Chairman of s^d Com^tee

N. B. Last Night came in here one family from the upper Coos and all the Rest of the Inhabitants are Removing as fast as possable.

CORNISH.

[Cornish was granted June 21, 1763, to Rev. Samuel McClintock of Greenland, N. H., and 69 others. ED.]

Petition of Jon^a Chase of Cornish for a grant of Hart Island, Jan. 15, 1772.

Province of
New Hamps

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esquire Governor & Commander in chief of said Province & to His Majesty's Council for the Same

The petition of Jonathan Chase of Cornish humbly sheweth—

That your petitioner having purchased of Col° Nathan Stone of Windsor an Island known by the Name of Hart Island contain'g about twenty two Acres lying in Connecticut River between the Lower Corners of Hartford & Plainfield & the upper Corners of Cornish & Windsor which was first laid out to the proprietors of Hartford in Several Divisions as interval and as such purchased by Major Oliver Willard of said Hartford who afterwards dispos'd of ye whole to Col° Stone from whom it has come into said Chase's hands having all along been informed that they the said Willard & Stone had a proper right to hold or dispose of the Same which lying so contiguous To the West Bank of the River was supposed to be part of the

Town of Hartford aforesaid—But since finding it otherwˢ determined—

Your Petitioner humbly prays your Excellency & Honours, in Consideration of the Improvements made by the former Claimers and the valuable purchase he has been innocently led into, the said Island may be confirmd to him by a Grant upon the usual Conditions & reservations—And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c

JONATHAN CHASE.

Portsmouth 15, Janʸ 1771.

Province of New Hampshire }

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esquire Governor & Commander in Chief of said Province and to His Majesty's Council for the Same—

The Petition of Jonathⁿ Chase of Cornish humbly sheweth—That your petitioner has made Improvements on a small Island lyingᵍ in Connecticut River between Cornish & Windsor containg about seven acres which was at first laid out as part of the Interval appertaining to the said Town of Cornish, as such assigned to him by the proprietors, and so improv'd for several years past but since understanding, that being an island tis necessary to obtain a distinct Grant of the same He humbly prays Your Excellency & Honors that he may be considered for the Improvements made there and favor'd with a Grant of the Same upon the usual Conditions & reservations & your petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

JONATHAN CHASE.

Portsmouth 15 January 1771

DEERFIELD.

[This town was incorporated 8 January, 1766. ED.]

Petition of Sundry inhabitants of Deerfield in relation to a tax, &c.

Province of New Hampshire }

To the Honorable house of Representatives, the Subscribers being owners of land in Deerfield And understanding that the Inhabitants of sᵈ Deerfield By their Committee have Petitioned the General Court for a Tax To be laid on all the land in sᵈ Parish of two pence pr. Acre for the Term of three years, the

one half for the Parsonage ye other half to be laid out on the Roads, we beg leave to offer a few Reasons why their petition or prayer Should not be Granted

1^sly^ We think it would be grievous to compel any whether they live in or out of the Parish to pay any thing towards the support of a Minister of a Different persuasion from themselves & we think any other Sosiety for publick worship of A different persuasion, have as good right to assistance in this way as they—2dly to subject the uncultivated lands in that parish to pay any part of public charges, we think would be grievous, as they yield no profit to the owner & it would be repugnant to the late valuation Act where woodland was exempted although in many Towns wood is of great value.

3^ly^ if a tax was to be laid on the uncultivated lands for any part of publick Charges it would not be Just to lay it equally on all, as many lots now they Are robbed by the Inhabitants (or others) of the valuable timber that grew on them are of little value

4^ly^ the parish is Considerably well Settled & with People of Substance—As it is unlikely s^d^ Petition will be Granted it may be needless to mention the greatness of the sum Pray'd for but we beg leave to mention that although s^d^ parish is Called six miles square it contains about Twenty Seven Thousand acre according to Nottingham plan as the lots are marked (if we are not mistaken as to how the lines of Deerfield run) we doubt not But your Honours will duly consider & way the matter & do what seemeth to you right. In the mean time we are your Honours Humble Servants

Josiah Sawyer
Samuel Barnard
Nathaniel Currier
Miriom French
James French
Phillips White
Benjamin Brown
Ebenezer Brown
Ebenezer Brown Jun.
Jonathan Ward
Henry Lampre
Nehemiah Ordway
Ephraim Wadleigh
Benjamin Wadleigh
John Woodman
Onesiphorous Page

Deerfield Petition for a Tax.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governor Commander and chief in and over His Majesty's province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the same. The Honorable His Majestys Council and House of Representatives for s^d^ Province Convened

The Humble Petetion of us the Subscribers (being A Committee Chosen by the Inhabitants of Dearfield to Petetion this

Court for A Tax to be laid on all the Lands in Dearfield for the following Reasons) Humbly shews

1stly Whereas the sd Inhabitants have Lately Settled a Minister in sd Dearfield very much to the acceptance of the Inhabitants and have Engaged to build him A Parsonage house & barn & clear a quantity of land on sd parsonage Lott and Sett out an orchard for him and Pay A yearly Salary &c.

2dly Wee have three Main Country Roads laid out through sd Parrish which are Greatly used by His Majestys Subjects to Pass and Repass in, to A Great number of towns Settled above us and frequent Complaints are made that they are not in So Good Repair as they ought to be & wee have Likewise many other highways Laid out for the accommodations of the Settlers of the Parrish in Length of the whole of sd ways Do amount to upwards of forty miles And as the Settlement of A Minister and haveing Good Highways in A New town or Parrish is verry much to the Proffitt of the Non resident Proprietors as well as the resident and as the Present Inhabitants are Mostly new Settlers which will make it Exceeding Difficult for them to Perform their Engagements

Therefore Your Petitioners Humbly Prays that in Your Great Wisdom and Goodness You would take this our prayer under your wise Consideration and order a Tax to be Laid on all the Lands in sd Dearfield for three years Next ensuing of two pence uppon the acre the one Half to be Laid out uppon the Parsonage house and Land the other Half on the Highways and that prudent Persons be appointed to manage sd business or other ways order with Regard to the Tax as you in your Great Wisdom and Goodness may think proper and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c.

Richd Jenness
Thos Simpson.

Province of New Hampr. } In Council Feby 2 1773. The within Petition was read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly

Geo King D. Sec.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Feb. 2d 1773.

Voted that the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on the third day of the Sitting of the Genl Assembly After the first day of May next, & that the Petitioners at their own cost, cause the Substance thereof to be published in the New Hampr Gazette, three weeks successively and also to put up notifications in said Dearfield that any person may show cause why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted.

William Parker Cler Assembly

In Council Feb. 3d 1773.
Read & Concurred

Geo King D. Secy.

In the House of Representatives May 13, 1773.

Voted that the Petitionrs be heard on this Petition on the third day of the Sitting after the 15 day of June next and that the Petitioners Cause the Petition to be printed as above directed

William Parker Cler.

In Council eodem Die
Read & concurred.
Geo King D Secy.

Province of New Hampr } In the House of Represents January 20th 1774

Voted That the Petitioners may lay a Tax on all the lands in Deerfield of one penny per acre for the Term of three years for the use of the Repair & making highways only & that the Petitioners have leave to bring a bill accordingly

Wm Parker Cler Assembly

In Council Jany 26, 1774
Read & non Concur'd
Geo. King D. Sec

Petition for a Justice of the Peace.

Province of New Hampshire Rockm }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General Govenor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England; and to ye Honle his Majestys Council of ye Province aforesd

The Petition of a Number of ye freeholders and Inhabitants of ye Paresh of Deerfield in sd. Province and County humbly sheweth that whereas there is a Large number of People in ye South part of Deerfield and much Business to be done and no Justice near so we think that such an office would be very advantageous to ye Place not only for ye Preservation of ye Peace but for ye transacting of other business which otherwise would be expensive to your Petitionars and others The Parson our Eyes are upon is Mr. Daniel Ladd of this Parish who appears to us a Very honest man and one Qualified and Disposed to do Justice—Thus hoping yt your Excellency and ye Honble Council will take this our petition under your wise Consideration and grant us our Request and as in Duty bound your Petitioners shall ever Pray

Deerfield Jany. ye 29th 1774

Josiah Prescott Junr.	Nemiah Cram
Joshua Leavitt	Thomas Berley
Jonathan Philbrick	Levi Harvey
Enos Sanborn	Ithiel Smith
Nathaniel Philbrick	Peter Sanborn
Benjamin Folsom	Wadleigh Cram

Henry Tucker	John Eastman
Josiah Smith	Joseph Merrill
Tristram Sanborn	John Merril
William Graves	Nathan Sanborn
Joseph Graves	David Haines
Ephraim Brown	Samuel Hoit
Josiah Sanborn	John Philbrick
James Philbrick	Joel Cram
Nathan Philbrick	Joseph Hoit

Petition of Inhabitants of ye Southerly part of Deerfiela to be made a Parish.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain Generall Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England. To the Hon^bl^e His Majestys Councill and House of Representatives for said Province Convened in General Assembly. Most Humbly Sheweth

The Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Southerly Part of the Parish of Deerfield in the Township of Nottingham in the County of Rockingham in said Province That the said Parish of Deerfield is Principally Settled at & near the Two Extreme parts of it viz: the Northerly End and the Southerly End which makes it very Difficult to meet All together for Publick Worship or for Transacting the Publick business of the Parish

That there are Two Meeting houses in said Parish for the Publick Worship and Two Ministers Regularly Called & Settled there and Also Two Military Companies in said Parish viz one at each end also Two Constables and but one sett of Selectmen which are Annually Chosen in the North Part of said Parish

That your Petitioners have for some years Past been at the Charge of Building a Meeting house Settling & Supporting a Minister in the said South part of said Parish and have had no Benefits by the North Part of said Parish. Wherefore and for many other reasons which on a hearing shall be given to your Excellency and your Hon^rs^ Your Petitioners Humbly Pray your Excellency & hon^rs^ To Incorporate the said South Part of Deerfield into a Distinct Parish so as to take in the First three Ranges and one half of the Range highway between the Third and the fourth Ranges of Lotts, with such Priviledges & Immunities as other Parishes in said Province Have and Do Enjoy and under Such Restrictions and Limitations as to Your Excellency and hon^rs^ Shall Seem Most Mete—And your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c

Deerfield April 7th 1774

John Robinson
James Young
Jonathan Robinson
David Robinson
Jedediah Prescott
Israel Clifford
William Mooers
Jedidiah Prescott Junr.
Josiah Prescott Jun.
Sanborn Cram
Samuel Pulsfer
Josiah Sanborn
Jonathan Judkins
John Lauranc
Tristram Sanborn
Samuel Winslow
Thomas Berley
Daniel Lad
Moses Marshall
Joseph Judkins
David Haines
Benjamin Judkins
John Morgain
Jonathan Philbrick
Wadleigh Cram
James Philbrick
Benjamin Folsom
Henry Tucker
Ithiel Smith
Ezekiel Gilman
Joseph Graves
Nemiah Cram
John Gidden
Nathan Sanborn
Samuel Hoit
William Haines
John Thursten
John Jones
John Philbrick
William Mudget
Caleb Morss
Levi Harvey
Nathan Philbrick
Ephraim Brown
Josiah Smith
John Merril
Joseph Merrill
Asaph Merrill
Nathaniel Lad
John Prescott
John Robinson Jun.

Province of } In the House of Representatives May 11th 1774
New Hamps. } The within Petition being Read and Consider'd

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on the third Day of the Siting of the General Assembly next after the twentieth Day of June next and that the Petitioners at their Own Cost Serve the Selectmen of Deerfield with a Copy of this Petition and Order thereon and also that the Petitioners Cause the Substance of this Petition and Order to be Published in the New Hampshire Gazett three weeks Successively that any Person May Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition should not be Granted

M. Weare, Clr

In Council eoden Die
Read and concur'd
Geo King D. Secy.

DERRYFIELD.

[Note. The following Papers relating to Derryfield are found in MS. Vol. IV, "Towns,"—pp. 307–309, being there misplaced. They should be examined in connection with Papers relating to Bedford and Londonderry. Ed.]

To his excelency Benning Wintworth Esq Governor & Commander In Chief of His Majestyes Provence of New

Hampshir the honnorable his Majestys Councell and House of Representatives In General Assembly Conven'd—

The pettetion of a number of the freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Derry field Humbly Sheweth that the first Monday of March annually is appointed by Charter to be the day for chusing of Town officers for the currant year and the usual costom of s^{d} town hes ben to warn the Town of time and place and design of holding said Meeting with the several articles to be acted upon on s^{d} day of posting up a coppy of Warrant at three several places in said town viz. one at John Goffe Esq one at John Hall & one at Mr Russes at Nameskeeg which was a vote of said Town for warning Town meetings in said Town but so it was that neither of the places had any notification set up and one of them particularly Nameskeeg had no coppy set up in that part of the town so that they knew not the time of Day the meeting was to be held yet notwithstanding two of the select men and town clarke did contrary to former custom with about ten or a dozen of the Inhabitants and boys & unqualyfied persons did enter and in about five minutes time chouse all the principal offi cer*sers* for the town Notwithstanding one of the select men & the constable & several of the Inhabitants opposed them and told them it was not fair to hold the meetin before the Inhabitants came and that it was not the usual time of day that the meeting use to begin & that the Inhabitants that must pay the greatest part of the Taxes that shall come upon the town were not present—that they would be here presently yet they proceeded as aforesaid and at five minute's after eleven of the clock a considerable number came & in halfe an hour the Inhabitants chiefly came & upon hearing that the principal officers were chosen by a small number of Voters and many of them not quallified they concluded as that was the day by charter to chuse town officers, they being the largest part of the Quallified Voters belonging to said town maid proclamation that they were going to hold the town meeting & all were desired to attend and they went to the Meeting house and maid choice of a Moderator & Town clark & select men & all town officers & they were sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty as the Law directs so that their is two set of officers in said town which makes confusition we most Humbly therefore pray your Excellency & Hon^{rs} To Take our case under your wise consideration and grant that there may be a Regular town meeting in said town & that we may have town Officers chosen as the law directs and that our confusion may be brought into order and might be enabled to Raise the province taxes & mend high ways & do the necessary business of the town and that your Petitioners may bring in a bill for that end —& your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray—

Dated at Derryfield first of May 1766.

John Goffe
William McClintock
David Starrett
Samuel Boyd
Nathaniel Boyd
Charles Emerson
William Nutt
John Griffen
John Stark
James McCalley
Samuel Stark
Daniel McNeall
Thos Russ
John Rand
John Hervy
Samuel Moor
John Moor.

Province of New Hamp } In the house of Representatives June 26th 1766.

The foregoing Petition being Read and Considered—

Voted—That the Petitioners be heard thereon on fryday the fourth day of July next if the General Assembly be then siting And if not then siting thereon the second day of their siting next after And that the petitioners at their own cost cause the selectmen and Town Clerk who served for Derry field for the year 1765, to be served with a Copy of this petition and Order of Court that they may appear and shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eodm die
Read & Concurrd—
T. Atkinson Jr. Secy.

Province of New Hamp. } In the House of Representatives July 4th 1766—

The foregoing Petition being Consider'd And the Parties heard thereon—

Voted—That the prayer of the Petition be granted And that the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly—

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eodm Die
Read & Concurr'd
T. Atkinson Jr. Secy.

DOVER.

[This was one of the first settled towns in New Hampshire, Portsmouth being the other. It was settled in the Spring of 1623, by Edward and William Hilton, brothers, from London. It was first called Pascataquack, as was also Portsmouth; afterwards Cocheco and Northam. It has borne the name of Dover for more than 200 years. Ed.]

Extracts from the Records of Dover.

Att a Town meeting 30th of the 6 mo '43.

30th 6 mo '43
It is this day ordered that William Pomfrett Shall have the Neck of

Land between the Mouth of Cochecha River and Nechewanick River with the Marsh thereupon to the first Narrow

March ye 19th 1693–4

By the Comitte Chosen by the freeholders of the Town of dover for granting Land given and granted unto Ephraim Tebbetts his heirrs and assigns for Ever Twenty Acres of Land on fresh Creek Neck to butt on Nechewanick River next to Saint Albonds cove. Test william Ferber Clark of s^d^ Comittee

This Above grant voated and Confearmed in generall Town Meeting the Second day of Aprill 1694.

Vera Copia. Test John Tuttle Towne Clerk

Laid out to Ephraim Tebbets according to grant Twenty acres of Land on fresh Creek neck and bounded it as followeth viz at a white oak Tree markt E T from thence South an be west 40 Rods to a white oak markt E T Then west an be north 4 score Rods to A Pich Pine markt E T then north and be East 40 Rods to a Pich Pine markt E T then on a straight Line to the first markt Tree the River is the bounds at the East End Laid out and bounded by us this tenth day of July 1694

Saml Heard
Ezekiel Wentworth
Thomas Downs

Petition for bridging Cochecho and Lamprey River.

To His Excellency Samuel Shute Esq. Capt. General and Gov^or^ in Chief of His Majestys province of New Hampshire, and to the Honourable the Council and house of representatives now Sitting in General Assembly

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dover Most humbly Sheweth

The heavy burthen lying upon your petitioners, in building and renewing the many bridges in The said town, over and above the ordinary annual repairs of High ways through the same whereby your petitioners have stood charged wth a much greater and more grievous tax than any other Town in the province more especially for the Erecting and maintaining Two very large Bridges over the river of Cochecho and Lamprey river; exclusive of which two rivers, your petitioners are more than even wth the Inhabitants of any Neighboring town in ye Costs of bridging and whereas the last years floods floated away the boom at Cochecho with 3 piers and the Standing bridge at Lamprel river which are now to be rebuilt your petitioners Do therefore humbly pray that the bridging of The Said Two rivers may be made a province Charge to be defrayed out of the publick Treasury As is usual in other Goverm^ts^ & y^r^ petition^rs^ shall Ever pray &c

R. Waldron
Step. Jones } Committee
Paul Gerrish

Copy of letter to the Selectmen of Dover and Exeter ab^{t} bridge.

Gentlemen

I am commanded by the Honble ye Lt Govr & Council to let you know that it is their direction to you that you have a suitable bridge built Pursuant to ye foregoing reports (which ye Genl Assm have accepted) with all possible dispatch and that it is their Expectation that you will improve every opportunity in forwarding so necessary a work and that there be no failure on any part (or by any means) in Complying with this order I am Gent^{n}

Y^{r} Most humble Servt
R. WALDRON Cler Con
Jany 20th 1723-4

To the Selectmen of
Dover & Exeter

Acct^{n} of pretenders to Land at Cochecho Point.

		Acres
Wm Stiles bought of Ephraim Libbey	grant	20
Jones	grant	20
Danl Gordon	Do	20
Nath Tarbox	Do	20
Tho. Cole, Shackfords by execution grant to Watson & sold to Nat Young	Do	20
Lt Hatevil Roby	not Laid out	30
Tho & Nat Roberts 30 acres ap's	grant	60
Daniel Jacobs	Do	20
Capt. Tuttle 2 g : 31	Do	60
Tho Rob^{ts} w^{ch} ——— had for wives portion	Do	20
Capt. Libbey Thorn Ben Marsh?	Do	20
Saml Cosen from his Father	Do	20
Howard Henderson wch Cook had	Do	20
Old Mr. Henderson	No grant	40
Blackstone	ab^{t}	10
Jos Canney of which Clark 4 acres gran.		20
		420

Petition ab^{t} Grammar School at Dover.

Province of }
New Hamps }

To the hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esqr Lieu^{t} Govr & Commander in chief for the Time being of s^{d} Province & to the hon^{ble} the Councill and house of Representatives Conven'd in Genl Assem^{bly}

The humble Petition of the Representatives for the Township of Dover in Behalf of s^{d} Town humbly sheweth

That whereas the said Town is one of the most exposed Towns in this Province to the Insults of the Indian Enemy And also whereas by an Act of the General Assembly of this

Province Entitled An act for ye Settlem^t^ & Support of Grammar Schools, the said Town of Dover (amongst others) is obleidged by s^d^ act to keep and maintain a Gramere School.

And whereas the Circumstances & Situation or Settlements of the Inhabitants of s^d^ Town lying and being in such manner as it is, the houses being so scattered over the whole Township that in No one place six houses are within call. By which inconveniency the Inhabitants of s^d^ Town can have no benefit of such a Gramar Schoole, for at the times fit for children to go and come from schools is Generally the chief Time of the Indians Doing Mischief, so that the Inhabitants are afraid to send their children to Schoole, and the children Dare not venture so y^t^ ye Sallary to s^d^ Schoole Master is wholly Lost to s^d^ Town.

So that your Petitioners at the Request & in behalfe s^d^ Town humbly prays y^r^ hon^rs^ & Generall Assembly that there may be an act of this Generall Assembly Past that the s^d^ Town of Dover may be Exempted from keeping a Gramar School During the war with the Indians, as formerly they were so prays your humble Petitioners

JAMES DAVIS
SAM^l^ TEBETS
August 29th 1772 TIM. GERRISH

In Council.

Voted That The prayer of This petition be granted for the reasons Therein Mentioned and That The petitioners have leave to bring in a bill accordingly

Richd Waldron Cler Con.

August ye 29th 1722

In the house of Representatives, read and lies for Consideration

August the 30th In the house of Representatives read and Concurred with Provided they keep a Schoole for reading and writing & Arithmetic

James Jeffrey
Clerk Assembly

Selectmen of Dover's petition and votes thereon.

Pro. N. Hamp

To the Honourable The Lieu^t^ Governour and Command^r^ in chief of said Province and to the Honble ye Council and house of Representatives convened in General Assembly.

The Petition of the Selectmen in behalf of the Town of Dover humbly *Sheweth*

That whereas ye late bridge over Lamprey river has been carryed away by a freshet for want of a firm foundation and a passage over that river being so necessary and useful Especially at this time

We Therefore most humbly pray that a Committee May be

appointed to view the said river and the landings on Each side in order to finding a more convenient place to build anew so as to prevent the like Misfortune wth ye former and Make a report of their doings at ye next Sessions and yor petition^rs^ Shall ever pray &c

RICH^d^ WALDRON
BENJ^a^ WENTWORTH } Selectmen
June 1st 1723. NICOLAS HARFORD

In Coun June 1st 1723.

Voted That Six Indifferent Persons be chosen a Committee To survey lamprey River and Report to His Honour the Lieu^t^ Govr and Council as soon as conveniency will permit ye Most commodius place for building a bridge a Cross said River and that Col^o^ Walton Mr Ew^d^ Ayres & Mr. Benj^a^ Thomas be three of ye Committee to Joyn wth ye Gentlemen whom ye house shall appoint

Rich Waldron, Cler Con.

Eoden Die In the house of Representatives

Voted a Concurrence with the above vote (with this Proviso) y^t^ ye Petitioners pay ye Charges of the Comittee and that Coll Peter Weare Coll John Plaistow Esqr and y^t^ Wm More be three of ye Comittee for ye end afores^d^

James Jeffrey Cl^r^ Ass^m^.

Petition and complaint against Richard Waldron Esq.

Province of
New Hampshire

To His Excellency William Burnet Esqr Governour and Comander in Chief in and over His Maj^ties^ Province of New Hampshire &c and to the Honble His Majesties Council for said Province

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the s^d^ Province Most humbly *Sheweth* That divers of your Pet^rs^ for upwards of Forty years, others for Thirty, have been Setled upon a certain Tract or Neck of Land in Dover in the Province afores^d^ being duly put into possession thereof by the Freeholders of s^d^ Town as by their Votes will appear; all which time was partly spent in Subduing the Indian Enemy and partly in Subduing and Cultivating the wild Land so given and granted to them, That after such a length of time when your Petitioner had with much blood and Labour reduced the Former to reason, and the latter to profit, and expected to enjoy the Sweet of all their Encounters and pains in the year 1719 Richard Waldron Esqr as Adm^r^ to the Estate of his Father Richard Waldron formerly of s^d^ Dover Esqr dec'ed brought his action against your Petitr^s^ and others for the Recovery of one Moiety of said Neck of Land pretending one half thereof was granted to him by the Selectmen of that Town so long ago as the 5th of the 10th Month 1652 and the

other half to William Furbur and others, whereas it's Evident from the Votes of s^d^ Town many years after that William Furbur and the whole Town Esteemed that Grant when the said Town was under the Massachusetts Government of no Validity For the s^d^ William Furbur in 1693–4 attests to Votes and Grants of the Freeholders of Dover afores^d^ of part and parcels of the s^d^ Land; however at a Superior Court the s^d^ Waldron Recovered the s^d^ Moiety and upon an appeal before the Hon^bl^e the Lieut. Governor and Council the appellants making De fault the Judgement of the Superior Court was Confirmed; the reason of such Default is easily accounted for so that by s^d^ Judgement the s^d^ Waldron was to hold in Common one Moiety of s^d^ Neck with y^r^ Pet^rs^ and others; That some time after the s^d^ Waldron brought his writ of Partition to hold his part in Severalty, and accordingly the 12th day of April 1728 a Jury went on the s^d^ Neck and divided the same, giving the upper part thereof to s^d^ Waldron and your Pet^rs^ the lower half where their Settlem^ts^ Orchards and Improvements were made, as by their return under their hands and Seals will appear, which was most equal & Just, & virtually agreing with the Judgement of the Hon^bl^e the Lieut. Governour and Council upon the appeal that the s^d^ Waldron might not be profited by your Pet^rs^ buildings; but the s^d^ Waldron being thus in part defeated of his Expectation, by management under the colour of Law & practice, but not warranted by either, as upon a hearing before your Excellency and Hon^rs^ will evidently appear, procured another Jury in SeptemberFollowing to make the Division De Novo, who without making themselves acquainted with the Tract and the Survey thereof as the Former Jury had done, at once and without any trouble Confirmed the Divisional lines the Former Jury had made and Established the Same, but gave the lower half where Stood your Petr^s^ Houses Barns Orchards and all their clear Land to s^d^ Waldron and gave them the upper half which the Former Jury had given to Waldron so that your Pet^rs^ after upwards of thirty years labour and the Expence of much blood and the sweat of their Brows are thereby with their wives and Children drove into the wild wilderness, and all this so done under the Shew of Justice and Equity within a civilized Government.

Your Pet^rs^ therefore persuade themselves from your Excellencies Superior and most distinguishable abilities and vertues, and from the Experienced Justice and Equity seated in Your Excellency and Hon^rs^, that they shall have a short day assigned them to be heard by their Council on the premises, and that they shall receive Such redress and relief as to Law Justice and Equity shall appertain

And the Pet[rs] as in duty bound will ever pray &c

ELISHA CLARK
JAMES WELLMET
April 4th 1729. HOWARD HENDERSON
JOSEPH CANNE
ABIGAIL BLACKSTON

Petition of the Inhab. of the N. E. part of Dover for a Parish.

To his Excellency William Burnet Esqr. Captain General and Governour in Cheif in and over his Majesties province of New Hamp[r] the Honourable his Majesties Council and the Representatives of the s[d] province in General Assembly Convened

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the North East part of the Town of Dover, humbly *sheweth*—That the Dwelling places of yo[r] Petitioners are at a great distance from the houses of the Public Worship of God in the Town of Dover where your Petitioners live by which their attendance thereon is rendered very difficult more especially to the women and children of their families and that in the Winter Season and in Stormy weather So y[t] they cannot pay that Honour and Worship to God in publick as it is their hearts desire they could, therefore for the advancing the Interest of Religion and for the Accomodation of yo[r] Petitioners It is humbly prayed by them that Your Excellency and the Honourable Assembly will please to sett them off as a Parrish for the Maintaining the Public worship of God amongst themselves and that they be dismiss'd from the Town of Dover as to the Supporting of the Settled Minister there, And that the Bounds of that their Parish may begin at the Gulfs a place so called at Cochecho river, and from thence to run to Varney's Hill and from thence the Town bounds on a North West point of the Compass & Your Petitioners Shall ever Pray as in duty bound &c

Paul Wentworth
Thomas Alden
Elazar Wyer?
Lowe Roberts
Jeremiah Rawlings
Silvanus Nock
James Hales
Thomas Hobbs
William Streley?
George Ricker
Tho[s] Downs
Philip Yetten
Thomas Nock

John Roberts
Samuel Randall
Samuel Cosen
———? Ricker
Ephraim Ricker
Jos Ricker
Joshua Roberts
John Hall
Moses Tebbets
William Downs
John Tebbets
Benj[a] Peirce
Mahonan Recker

Zacheriah Nock	Thomas Tebbets
Philip Stacpole	Benjamin Stanton
Thomas Miller	Ebe[r] Wentworth
Nath[l] Perkins Jun.	Samuel Jones
Samuel Roberts	Joseph Peney
Benjamin Wamouth	Philip Pappon
John Conyer?	Jemes Gupey
Wilam Chesle?	Josiah Clark
Joseph Husey	John Mason
Ichabd Tebbets	Benjamin Twomble
James Stacpole	William Jones
Benj[a] Varney	Daniel Plumer
Ebenezer Garland	Jabez Garland
Samuel Downs	Hugh Connor
Richard Wintworth	Job Clements
Joseph Wintworth	John Roberts
John Connor	Edward Ellis
Tho[s] Wallingford	Samuel Ally
Moris Hobbs	William Tompson

April the 25th 1729 In the house of
In the house of Representatives. The within Petition being read

Voted the Petitioners serve that part of the Town of Dover that they Desir'd to be set off from with a Copy of this Petition to appeare at the General Assembly Wednesday next the Show Cause (if the can) why the prayer of the Petition Should not be Granted

In Council Eod[m] die
Read and Concurred with
R. Waldron Cler Con

Petition of Eleazer Weare in behalf of Inhab[ts] of N. E. part of Dover.

To His Excellency William Burnit Esq[r] Goven[r] and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hamp[r] & to the Honourable the Council and Representatives in Gen[l] Assembly convened.

The Humble Petition of Eleazer Weare in the behalf of the Inhabitants of the North East part of the Town of Dover *Sheweth*

That the Inhabitants of the afores[d] North East part of the Town of Dover upon their Petition by them Subscribed presented to your Excellency and to the Honourable Assembly that they might be set off as a Separate Parish did obtain an order that their Petition Should be heard on Wednesday the Ninteenth day of April last and that the Inhabitants of the Parish of Dover should be notified to attend the Same on the s[d] day, yet so it happens that the s[d] day is past and yet the Inhabitants of Dover not notified nor any hearing of the s[d] Petition had. Your Petitioner therefore prays that your Excellency and this Honourable Assembly would please to appoint

a Day that so the afores[d] Petition May be heard and that the Town of Dover be notified to make answer if any Your Petitioner shall shall ever pray as in duty bound

ELEAZER WYER

Dover 1 May, 1729

In the House of Representatives—

Voted That the prayer of this petition be granted & the Town of Dover be notified by the petitioners Serving the Selectmen with a Copy of the Petition & that the Town be Directed to Send some person or persons to represent them & give reasons if any they have why the pray[r] of the s[d] Petition should not be granted & to appear the Eighth day of Ins[t] May or if the Assembly be not then sitting then to appeare the Second day of the Sitting of next Gen[l] Ass[m]

James Jeffrey Cl[r] Ass[m]

May 1st 1729
In Council May 2[d]
Read & Concurr'd
R. Waldron Cler. Con.

Petition of Paul Gerrish and others of Dover, relating to frauds and forgeries.

To the Honourable John Wentworth Esq[r] L[t] Gov[r] Comand[r] In Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire To the Hon[bl e] the Council and House of Representatives convened in General Assembly for Said Province

The humble Petition of Paul Gerrish of Dover in New Hamp[re] aforesaid and several of the principal Inhabitants of said Town

Most humbly Sheweth That for these two years last past the said Paul Gerrish has been Clerk of the said Town of Dover and since the books of the said Town have been in the said Gerrish's hands, he has discovered a Great deal of Corruption (or forgery as he apprehends acted and done in the said books) as he supposes by those persons (or their permission) whose hands they formerly have been in, and that said principal Inhabitants of said Town are Stil of opinion that there are now through the ill actions formerly done a great many forged grants stil produced and bro't to the lot layers of said Town to be laid out who with great reason suspecting them refuse to lay them out and on their refusal those persons who have got those grants apply to the next Town Lot lay[rs] who lay such grants out, whereby the Town of Dover is very greatly damnified and set in confusion and if some remedy cannot be found out for their relief will be almost ruin'd—They Therefore most humbly Pray That yo[r] Hon[r] and the Gen[l] Assem will take the premises under your mature Consideration and make such

orders thereupon as may (if possible) rectify the horrible Injustice that has been done the Town by such false entrys and Effectually prevent the Confusion which the Town will otherwise unavoidably be in and yo[r] petition[rs] as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Dec[r] 15th 1729

Paul Gerrish	David Watson
Paul Wentworth	Hobs
John Cannie	Tho[s] Alden
John Waldron	Joseph Conner
John Waldron Jun[r]	Daniel Goodin
Ezra Kimbal	W[m] Styles
John Hammock	Sam[l] Dam
James Chesley	Sam[l] Styles
Eph[a] Wentworth	John
W[m] Forst	Nath[l] Varny
W[m] Welland	Eleaz[r] Wyer
Eben[r] Varney	El[r] Wyar Jun[r]
Eben[r] Varney Jun[r]	Sylv[s] Nock
Thom[s] Pinkham	James Hobs
Nath[l] Young	Thom[s] Wallingford
Israel Hogsden	Eben[r] Wentworth
Mark Gyles	Eben[r] Garland
Tob[s] Hanson Jun[r]	Sam[l] Jones
Edward Ellis	Josh[a] Roberts
Gersh[m] Wentworth Jun.	John Thompson
Israel Hogsden	Jon[a] Merrow
Trist Coffin	James Guppy
Benj[a] Hanson	Nath[l] Perkins
Moses Winget	John Rickar
Tho[s] Millit	Eph[m] Rickar
John Young	George Rickar
Rich[d] Plumer	Gersh[r] Wentworth
Jos Hanson Jun[r]	Sam[l] Wentworth
Tob[s] Hanson	John Wentworth

True Copy

Rich[d] Waldron Cler. Con.

In the House of Represen[ves] Dec. 16 1729.

The annexed Petition of the Town Clerk of Dover and others of said own was read and

Voted Thereon, That the Clerk of the said Town of Dover for the time being be hereby prohibited entering any of those old Comittee Grants that are Suspected not to be legally obtained and to enter only such Grants as have or may be allowed by said Town or the Select Men thereof until the next Siting of the General Assembly and that there be a Comittee chosen by the Gen[l] Assembly to go to the Town Clerk for the Time being who is hereby required to shew unto such Committee such Entrys Matters and things as he or any of the Said Town suppose to be done by ill practice and the said Committee shall by Virtue hereof summon before them all such persons that can give any light in Explaining any matters or things they may see occasion to Examine for discovery of truth and detecting such vile practices and to give such person or persons their oaths and to make returns of their doings therein to the General Assembly next session

And that Nath[l] Weare Esqr. and Theo[re] Atkinson Esq[re] be a Commit-

tee of this House to Joyn such as shall be appointed above for that end and that the Petitioners pay the Charges

James Jeffrey Cler Assm

In Council Decr 18th 1729

Read and Concurr'd and Joth Odiorne & Henry Sherburne Esqrs appointed for the Service above

Richd. Waldron Cler Con.

True Copy Examined,

Richd Waldron Cler Con—

Province of
New Hamp

We whose names are underwritten being of the Comittee for the Ends within mentioned have been at Dover & upon a Strict enquire of all persons that we tho't or suspected could give us any Information as also we haveing searched the Town Book do report thereon as followeth we do finde by the sd Town book that great forgery & fraud hath been used & frequently practiced by Entering grants Many years back in the Inter Spaces of the Book & that the Book hath often been exposed & Lay open to many persons to enter what Grants they saw proper therein & that we found many of the sd Originall Grants in the former Town Clerks hand which appeared to us to be fraudulent & Deceitful which have been Entered in sd book as aforesd — that Great Quantities of Land hath been Laid out by Virtue of the sd Grants by which we Imagine The Town hath been Striped of at Least fifteen Thousd pounds worth of Land as wittness our hand this 24th March 1729–30.

Jotham Odiorne
Hen Sherburne } Comtee
Theodore Atkinson

Report about Dover Town Book.

Whereas the Generall Assembly of this his Majs Province upon reading the report of the Comittee formerly appointed by sd Assembly to Examine Dover Town book: Wee whose names are hereunto Subscribed were appointed by the Genel Assembly to make a more exact & particular Inquiry into the Sevell Grants & returns in sd Book supposed to be Vicious & Corrupt as pr. sd Vote of the 30th of Decembr 1730 will appear & having Strictly examined sd Town Books & files as alsoe the the former Town Clerk & other Persons from whom we could receive any Insight or Information & Do report that all the Grants & returns mentioned in this report we Imagine to be fraudulent Corrupt & Vicious for the reasons mentioned with Each record herein recited as

1st In the old Book Page (120) a grant made in the 10th of the 11th month (59) & A return made & ent'red by Capn Thos Tibbets the Late Clerk & in a space amongst the records made many years before he was Clerk & the time of his recording it was entered with the sd Grant & return & afterward erased & the Clerk acknowledged he recorded it, beside we viewed the originall & finde it all of one hand and sighning

2dly In the New book Page (9) a grant made by a Committee whereof William Furbur was Clerk for 60 acres of Land made to the reverend Mr. John Pike Dated the 23d June 1701, & confirmed by the Town the 23d march 1702 This Capt Thos Tibbets swears he doth not know how it came upon record & that Doctor Pike had been with him to get the sd Grant &c recorded but he refused to Enter it being as he believed not good. Nestwithstanding 'tis ent'red in a Vacancy Left in sd book formerly &y p a Different hand from the records of that Time & some obliteratiage

wh

3d In sd Book Page (16) a grant made by sd Comittee for (30) acres of Land to Capt Thos Tibbets on the 3d of June 1701 because ent'red by Capt Tibbets son Saml as he himself Declares upon oath amongst the records made by Capt Tuttle & we observed that the Date of the record, in the same page both before & after were in the year (1694) but we could not obtain any originall.

4th In page 19 a grant made to Nicho Harrison for (60) acres on the 19th 1693–4 & confirmed by the Town In the month of April following Ent'red in a Space amongst the records made by Capt Tuttle & not in his hand and Differing from his sd Tuttles method

5th In ye (27th) a grant made by sd Comittee to Capt Saml Tibbets in the year 1694 recorded in an unusuall hand & crowded in a Vacancy amongst the records the originall Saml Carle Swears he had of one Burnham & Capt Thos Tibbets Swears he refused to record it believing it not to be good yet we find it recorded

6 Page (32) a Grant made to Nathl Tibbetts for 30 acres Dated the 11th April 1694 by sd Comittee & Confirmed the 16th of the same month by the Town Crowded in between Tuttles record in an unusuall hand & by the originall it appears that Furbur the Clerk of the Comittee's name neither wrote or spelt as he used to Do & the grant & confirmation of the same hand writing

7th In Page (57) Grant to Francis Pittman by The Town of April the 6th 1702 for forty acres crowded in with Tuttles records in an unusuall hand Thos Tibbets Swears that he doth not know weither he recorded it or not but that he did enter some Grants & returns in Capt Tuttles vacancy in sd book

8th In Page (62) June the 23d 1701 a grant by sd Comittee to Jeremiah Barnum for 50 acres ent'red in one of Tuttles Vacancys & by Tibbets himself as he swears but tis not signed by any Clerk.

9th In Page (75) June 23d 1701 a grant to Nathl Landers by the sd Committee & Entred by Tibbets in the Bottom of a Leaf with Tuttle records as appears by the hand writing & his acknowledgement & the Different Inck & the originall appears not to be the writing of Furbur the Clerk of the Comittee which we rec'd from Tibbets

10th Page (76) grant to Roger Vose for Three score acres of Land & meadow by sd Comittee the 19th march 1693–4 & confirmed by the Town the 2d April 1694 crowded in amongst Tuttles Entries in a Different hand and different Collerd Inck from the Entry before & after

11th 86th Page grant to Eli Dimerrest for 30 acres of Land the 11th April 1694 & Confirmed the 16th April 1694 Tibbets acknowledges he entred in a Vacancy Left by Tuttle since he was Clerk

12th 91 Page a grant by the sd Comittees to John Tuttle & Ezekl Wentworth for 30 acres of Land by sd Comittee June 23d 1701 entred by Capt Tibbets at the Bottom of Tuttles entres not Confirmed by the Town nor signed by the Clerk of the Comittee for Town.

13th 93d Page a grant to Jere Barnum for 40 acres april 11th 1694 crowded in at the Bottom of Tuttle's record & supposed to be Vicious it being in an unusuall hand writing

14 Page 94 a grant by sd Comittee for 40 acres to Jere Barnum & not confirmed by the Town This Tibbets Upon oath says he recorded in a Vacancy of Tuttles record about 7 years since

15th Page 95 a grant made by the sd Comittee to Thos Roberts the 11th April 1694 & confirmed the 16th April following & we find the Grant was made to Thos Roberts Tertius which is Left out in the record & Tibbetts swears he entred it himself James Hanson swears he got the originall of Ebenr Young who told him sd Hanson if he would get it recorded he should have half of it and accordingly the sd Hanson swears he went to Capt Tibbets & gave him Two gallns rum & or[illegible]a[illegible] Abner Young to pay him Twenty Shillings in money for recording

16 Page (98) granted by s[d] Comittee fifty acres to Rich[d] Husey & Confirmed the 16 april 1694 crowded among[s] Tuttles writing in an unusuall hand Different Coullord Inck.

17 Page 101 granted to Abraham Clark the 23[d] June 1701 & Confirmed the 6th of April 1702 Tibbets swears he recorded about Three years since & the s[d] Clark swears that Mishack Drew & William Hill asked him about that time if he would sell him his grant of Land if they could finde it upon record & promised them they should have it & some time after they told him it was recorded & then bargained with him for Ten pounds & about this Time the s[d] Clark asked Cap[t] Tibbets if he had any Grant & he Told him he did not love to ent[r] such falce things

18th 103 Page a grant by s[d] Comittee to Pumphret Whitehouse June 23 1702 for 50 acres entred amongst Tuttles records & Tibbets he recorded it himself and by the original it appears not to be furburs writing it being different from his hand & his name not spelt right

19 Page 104 a grant by s[d] Comittee for 50 acres of the 19th of March 1693-4 confirmed the 11th of april 1694 made to Bryant Higgins This Tibbets swears he recorded amongst Tuttles records & that Tho[s] Davis Bro't to him about 5 years past to have it recorded

20 Page 105 a grant by s[d] Comittee to Rob[t] Allen in the year 1701 & confirmed 6th april 1702 for 40 acres Tibbets swears he recorded amongst Tuttles records about four years past.

21 Page 113 11th 1701 a Grant by s[d] Comittee for 40 acres of Land This Tibbets swears he entered about 5 or 6 years since & in a Vacancy in Tuttles Entries the original appears to be altered & not writ by Furbur the Clerk it differing Both in writing & spelling.

22 Page 120 June 3[d] 1701 granted by s[d] Comittee to George Chesley & Confirmed by the 23[d] March 1702—50 Acres of Land entred by Tibbets as he swears about 5 years Since & the originall it appears that the Grant & Confirmation to be both of one hand & yet neither Furbur's nor Tuttles writing.

23 Page 130 In the year 1699 & no Day nor month a grant made by the Select men to Jo[s] Jenkins 40 acres which Tibbets Swears he Entred himself & amongst Tuttles records & swears he signed the originall not as a Select man but as a witness he remembering the grant to have been made about the year above s[d] which Induced him to write the Grant & record it.

24 Page 131 April 11th 1694 Granted by s[d] Comittee to Joseph Smith Jun[r] & Confirmed the 16th Day of April 16th April 1694 Tibbets swears he recorded amongst Tuttles records & that the original was altered & obliterated before he entred it from 60 acres to 40 acres

26 132 Page granted June 23[d] 1701 by the Committee afores[d] 30 acres to Nath[l] Pittman Tibbets entred amongst Tuttles record about 5 or 6 years since & the original appears not to be Furburs writing & much Interlined

27 Page 136 June 23[d] 1701, granted by s[d] Comittee to John Rand forty acres of Land which is not Confirmed by this Town This Tibbets Entred 10th Tuttles records about 5 or 6 years since

28 Page 139, June 23[d] 1701, a grant to Joseph Jenkins by said Comittee Tibbets swears he entred about seven years ago

29 Page 144 May 28th 1701, a grant to John Pinkham for Twenty acres the original appearing not to be the writing of the said Furbur nor his signing his name not being spelt Right

30 Page 147 April 11 1701, a grant by the Comittee to John Hanson for 60 acres not confirmed by the Town & y[e] originall neither wrote nor signed by the Clerk.

31 Page 149, April 11 1694 granted by the Comittee to Joseph Joanes 40 acres who says that he had the originall from Barnum and that he

Got it allowed by the Selectmen since & had it recorded for the common fees

32 Page 157 a grant by the Comittee of the 11th April 1693–4 to Richard rendall for 30 acres This grant Nath[l] rendall Swears he had of Burnum & Cap[t] Tibbets swears he recorded it but the originall appears not to be the hand writing of Furbur nor signed by him

33 Page (152) June 23[d] 1701. Granted to James Davis 60 acres of Land Entred by Tibbetts the originall grant being much Interlined & scratched Coll Davis says upon oath that Burnum asked him what he should give him for a grant of Land & s[d] Davis answered he knew of no Grant but what was upon record & that his son Some time after went to Burnum & got the grant and carried it to Capt. Tibbets to record

34th Page (153) granted by s[d] Comittee to Sam[l] Chesley 40 acres April 11, 1694 but not confirmed Entred by Tibbets but the originall not furburs writing nor signing—

35 Page (154) June 23[d] 1701 Granted by the s[d] Comittee to Richard Clark not Confirmed nor wrote nor signed by the Clerk of s[d] Comittee

36 Page 154—April 16th Day 1702 granted at a Town meeting to Sam[l] Perkins 30 acres of Land the originall not wrote or signed by the Comittee

37 Page 153 June 23[d] 1701 granted by the Comittee to Ely Demerret for 10 acres under the same Circumstances as the above grant to Perkins

38 Pag 155 June 23[d] 1701 granted by the Comittee to Amos Pinkham 40 acres not confirmed by the Town & the originall not signed by the Comittee or any Clerk and yet in the record willim Furbur is Entred as Clerk.

39 Page 155 June 23[d] 1701 a grant by the Comittee to James Nute of 40 acres not wrote or signed by Furbur the Clerk

40 Page 156 March 19th 1693–4 a grant by s[d] Comittee to Tristram Heard for 30 acres Vicious for reasons mentioned in James Nutes grant afores[d]

41 Page 157 May 2[d] 1701 granted by the Comittee to Jo[s] Ham 20 acres vicious for the same reasons

42 Page 158 April 11 1694 granted by the Comittee to Rob[t] Higgins 30 acres the originall Interlined & otherwise vicious for the reasons above s[d]

43 Page 158 June 23[d] 1701 a Grant by the Comittee to Josh Richards for 60 acres confirmed the 23 March 1702 both Grant & Confirmation the same hand & neither Furburs nor Tuttles

44 Page (158) March 29th 1693–4 Granted by the Comittee to Thomas Stevenson Thirty Acres of Land Vicious because not signed nor wrote by the Clerk

45 Page (162) June 23[d] 1701 a grant by the Comittee for 30 acres of Land to W[m] Hill & Confirmed the 23[d] of March 1702 because interlined & altered & the Grant & Confirmation both of one mans writing & neither of them of Furburs or Tuttles writing

46 Page 162 April 11. 1694 a Grant to John Davis by the Comittee for 30 acres no Confirmation of the Town & not of Furburs writing nor Signing

47 Page 124 June 23[d] 1701 a grant to David Kinckad by the Comittee & confirmed the 6th April 1702 both of the Same hand writing & it appearing by the records that the s[d] Kincad had a grant of the Same Date & Quantity of Land recorded before

48 Page 164 March 19, 1693–4 a Grant made by the Comittee to Tho[s] Drew & Confirmed the 2[d] Day of April 1694 Tibbets swears Mishack Drew bro[t] the Grant to him to record but Drew Denies he ever carryd any grant to him to record

49 Page 165 March 19th 1693–4 a grant made to Elias Cretchett for 3 Score acres of Land not confirmed Because wrote upon a new ps of paper appears to have been cut off from a ps of paper on which we find a Grant made to Abraham Benneck Seven years after the Stamp of the paper being partely on one & partely on the other & not of the Clerks writing

50 Page 165 June 23d 1701 a Grant of sd Comittee to Abraham Bennick wrote on the ps of Paper above mentioned & wrote by the Same except the Date of the Grant & Some few words besides

51 June 23d 1701 In Page (167) a Grant by sd Comittee to Ichabod Rollings for 50 acres Confirmed 23d March 1702 because not Signed by the Comittee nor their Clerk & by the Town Clerk

52 Page 121 A grant by the sd Comittee for 30 acres to Nicho Harford no date & the Grant & Petition for sd Grant being on the Same ps paper & wrote by the Same hand & Differs from the record because the record is Dated & the originall not

53 Page 106 March 19th 1693–4 a grant by Comittee to the estate Joseph Field for 10 acres Confirmed the 16 April 1694 because all wrote by one hand & neither of them the Clerk either the Comittee or the Town

54 Page ( ) June 23d 1701 a grant by the Comittee to Capt Thos Tibbets for a small Gore of Land The originall was all of his own writing & Furburs name alsoe & he sd Tibbets hath Entred in the records a Confirmation of the Town & on the originall there is no Such thing.

We alsoe reporte that many things appear Very Dark by the record which we have omitted because we could not come at the originall Grants nor finde any particular Information about them we alsoe by James Barnums own oath report that he purchased a bundle of these Grants from the wido of the sd Furbur the Clerk & since that hath sold them to many persons & they have got them recorded

April 30 1731

HEN SHERBURNE
NATHL WEARE
THEOd ATKINSON

Petition of Proprietors of Hilton's Point, Dover.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr. Capt Genl and Commander in Chief in and over his Majties Province of New Hampshire to the honble the Councill and house of Representatives Conven'd in Genl Assembly

The humble Petition of the Proprietors of the neck of Land in the Town of Dover on the Point Commonly called Hiltons Point on Dover Neck most humbly Sheweth That whereas the high way from Bloody Point ferry Goes through the said neck of Land and altho' the said Neck is al Fenced up (only the Rhod way) whereby the Proprietors by reason of the way being open the proprietors of the Said neck of Land can have no Benefit thereof

Therefore yr humble Petitioners Prayes that they may have an act to empower them to set up a Gate at the Entrance into the high way that Leads up from the Waters side by Capt Mil-

lets over huclebery Hill (as has been usual) and whereby no obstruction can be to the High way and y^r^ Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

April the 30th 1731.

Thos Millet
Richard Plumer
Thos Canney
John Clements
Thomas Tibbets
Ephraim Tibbets
Joseph Roberts
Thomas Roberts
Otis Pinkham

In Concl May 3d 1731

The Petition on the other side Read and ordered that the Petitioners Serve the Selectmen of the Town of Dover wth a Copy of the s^d^ Petition and this order That they may appear on thursday next at 10 o'clock A. M. to Shew cause if any they have why the Prayer of the said Petition should not be granted—and ordered to be sent down for Concurrence

Richd Waldron Secretary

Eodem Die In the House of Representatives

The above order read & concurr'd with

James Jeffrey Cler Assm

Capt Mathes a Select man of Dover appearing & not objecting

In Coun May 6 1731

Voted That The Prayer of the w^th^in Petition be granted and that the Petitioner have leave to bring In his bill accordingly

R. Waldron Secy

May 6th 1731 In the house of Representatives

The vote of the Council Read & Concur'd

James Jeffrey Cler Assm

Petition of People in Dover and other Towns for a Township.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr. Captain General and Comander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable His Majesties Council for s^d^ Province

The Humble Petition of divers of his Majesties Loyal Subjects Residing within the Province aforesaid Humbly *sheweth* that whereas there is a considerable Tract of land very commodious for Settlement lying nigh Winnepissocay Pond and we the Subscribers Your Humble Petitioners not having a competency of land to afford us a comfortable Subsistance Do Humbly Pray that Your Excellency and Honours would be pleased to grant unto us the Said tract of land for a township consisting of such dimentions & with such limitations restric-

tions & Conditions as you in your great wisdom shall think proper and your Humble Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Dover February 6th 1732–3

Saml Emerson
William Twombly
John Horn
William Hanson
Samuel Carll
Joseph Hanson Junr
John Cook
Saml Young
Nathanl Garland
Stephen Otis
Maul Hanson
John Canny Junr
Ichabod Kenny
Joseph Tebbets
John Demedy
John Layton
Saml Drown
Solomon Drown
Edward Tebbetts
John Twombly
Joseph Estes
Saml Carll Junr
Nathl Carll
Benja Roberts
James Bunker
Thomas Canny
Benja Hanson Junr
Benja Hanson
Saml Smith
Saml Smith Tertius
Timothy Emmerson
Daniel Jacobs
James Layton
Derry Pittman
John Tasker
John Brown
John Roberts Tertius
Isaac Watson
Timothy Roberts
Nicholas Tuttle
John Horne Junior
James Nute Junior
Benja Bodge
Thomas Miller
Joseph Varney
Tobias Hanson
Tobias Hanson Junior
Isaac Hanson
John Mellons
John Hanson
Benja Tebbetts
Paul Tebbetts

William Stiles Junior
Moses Varney
James Hobbs
Ichabod Hayes
Zechariah Nock
Pomfret Whitehouse Junr
Benja Ham
Eleazer Ham
Benja Frost
John Garland
William Lord
Saml Starboard
Henry Hill
Nathanl Lynn
John Pearl
John Tebbetts Junior
John Tebbetts Tertius
John Follitt Junior
Solomon Perkins
John Hayes
John Hayes Junior
William Whitehouse
Bennedictus Farr
Thomas Horne Junior
Ichabod Horne
Saml Perkins
Thomas Layton
Saml Chesley
Solomon Emmerson
John Daniel Junior
Joseph Tebbetts Junior
Nicholas Meader
Saml Meader
Joseph Richards Jun.
John Roe
Joseph Bunker
John Woodman
John Woodman Junr
Joshua Woodman
Edward Woodman
Archelus Woodman
Nathl Varney
Jonathan Young
William Horne
Richard Ward
James Pinkham
John Field Junr
Daniel Meader
Thomas Drew Junr
John Ham Junr
Joseph Roberts Junr
James Nute

John Gage
Job Clements
John Carter
Sam[l] Nute
Eli Demerritt Jun[r]
William Horn Jun[r]
John Bowdy
Richard Pinkham
Henry Tebbetts
William Demerritt
Timothy Tebbetts
Job Demerritt
Henry Bussy
Thomas Tebbetts Jun[r]
Thomas Varney
Sam[l] Varney
Joseph Conner
Stephen Varney
David Watson
Dudley Watson
Sam[l] Davis
Joseph Hicks
Tho[s] Bickford
Benj[a] Demerritt
Will[m] Hill Jun[r]
Nath[l] Lummocks
Thomas Ash
Thomas Willey
Stephen Willey
John Ran
Thomas Willey Jun[r]
John Ham
Ephraim Ham
Sam[l] Ham
Nath[l] Ham
Ichabod Tebbetts
Sam[l] Lamb
Benj[a] Pierce
Benj[a] Pierce Jun[r]
Jerem. Tebbetts Jun[r].
James Clark
Zecheriah Bunker
James Bibard
Timothy Moses Jun[r]
Joseph Daniel
John Hammock
John Layton Jun[r]
Hatevil Layton
Nath[l] Hanson
Caleb Evans
John Winget
Rich[d] Hammock
Sam[l] Merrow
Jonathan Merrow
Sam[l] Merrow Junior
Stephen Roberts
Ebenezer Varney
Ebenezer Roberts

Benj[a] Roberts Jun[r]
Ebenezer Varney Jun[r]
James Kelley
Joseph Libby
Otis Pinkham
John Williams
Dan[l] Mis Harvy?
John Miss Harvy?
John Demerritt
Vincent Farr
Edward Evans Cooper
Zech[a] Pittman
Jonathan Brew
Ephraim Tebbetts
John Church
Joseph Evans Jun[r]
Paul Hays
Micah Emmerson
Arthur McDaniel
Joseph Harfard
Benj[a] Evans
Jacob Allen
Benj[a] Allen
Thomas Wallingford
Henry Bickford
Joseph Jackson
Ralph Twombly
Joseph Curtis
John Perkins
Joseph Tebbetts Tertius
Robert Hanson
Thomas Hanson
Timothy Hanson
Daniel Miss Harvey Jr.
Jabez Garland
John Varney
Nath[l] Aston
John Tuttle
William Jenkins
James Tuttle
Reuben Chesley
William Hill
Robert Evans
James Drummond
Ichabod Hill
John Jenkins
Sam[l] Hays
Isaac Hanson Jun[r]
Joseph Hall Junior
Matthey Peavy
Thomas Millet
William Twombly Jun[r]
John Gerrish
Peter Hays
Rich[d] Plummer
Sam[l] Beard
William Frost
Sam[l] Walton

John Huckins
Sam[l] Jones
Joseph Rankins
Sam[l] Aston
Will[m] Hussy
Sam[l] Willey Jun[r]

DOVER

Joseph Pierce
Joseph Aston
Sam[l] Holden
Francis Drew
John Drew
James Hanson
Jonathan Church
Elijah Tuttle
Paul Canney
Joseph Jones
Benj[a] Hays
Joseph Recker
Benj[a] Aston
John Young
Solomon Clark
John Canny
Maurice Hobbs
Hugh Conner
Thomas Mason
Joshua Perkins
Henry Tebbetts Jun[r]
William Shepherd
Ephraim Tebbetts
Sam[l] Wentworth
John Bickford
Joseph Bickford
Gershom Downs
Gershom Downs Jun.
Sam[l] Canny
Sam[l] Canny Jun[r]
Joshua Canny
Daniel Horne
John Cromwell
Job Hussy
Joseph Hussey
Richmond Henderson
Noel Cross
Joseph Canny
Thomas Waits
John Mason
John Bampton
Rich[d] Hussey
Sam[l] Herd
Sam[l] Herd Junr
John Herd
James Chesley
Matthew James
Benj[a] Merrow
Daniel Young
Thomas Nock
Thomas Perkins
Joseph Perkins
Nathaniel Roberts
Thomas Dowens
Benjamin Mason
John Tebbets
Sam[l] Tebbets Jun[r]
Jeremiah Rolings
Eleazer Wire
John Tebbets
Timothy Carrl
Daniel Ham
Lowe Roberts
Philon Yeten
David Daniel
Ezekiel Wolonford
Thomas Tebbets Son John
Howard Henderson
Timothy Roberson
Timothy Roberson Jun.
Jacob Hanson
Nicolas Brock
James Guppy
Paul Roberds
Ebenezer Downs
Joseph Twombly
John Waldron
John Waldron Junr.
Richard Waldron
Joshua Guppy
Sam[l] Cromett
Nicolas Hartford
James Davis, tertius

March 3[d], 1732. Order'd to lye for consideration.

Petition for a grant of land.

To His Excellency Jon[a] Belcher Esqr. Gov[r] & Commamd[r] in Chief in & over His majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Hon[ble] His Majesties Council in Said Province

The Petition of Sundry Persons Inhabitants of Durham, Dover, Exeter & Newington most Humbly *Sheweth*

That whereas your Petitioners are men who have been bro't

up to Husbandry & farming, but want Lands to exercise their faculty on to their advantage none of them having any share or Propriety in any of the New Townships; they did about six or Seven years agoe Petition the Honble the then Lieut. Govr & Council for a grant of a Tract of Land to yor Petition^rs & that they might be Incorporated into a Township—And whereas nothing was then done upon it but yor Petition^rs prayer neglected they most humbly pray that yor Excell^y & the Honble the Council in yor great wisdom & goodness would be pleas'd to grant yor Petition^rs a Tract of Land where you shall think proper in this Province Since they have endur'd the brunt & hardships of the Late war have been entirely left out in all former Grants and are all men who are able & willing to settle & Cultivate Land if they had it—and yor Petitioners shall as in duty bound ever pray &c

FRANCIS MATHES—in behalf of the other Petitioners

Jany. 3^d 1753-4.

A List of the Petitioners' names.

Hugh Adams
Jno Edgerly
Joseph Edgerly Junr.
Jno Kent
Joseph Edgerly
Moses Kimmin
Zebulon Dam
Jno Drew
Benja Daniel
Steph. Willey
Thos Footman
James Langley
Thos Langley
Jno Bickford Junr
Joseph Thomas
Nathan Kenniston
Jno Crimmet
Jno Burss
Thos Bickford Jun.
Solomon Sias
Joseph Bickford
Saml Willey
Zach Edgerly
Abra Stevenson
Christopher Kenniston
Jona Kenniston
Jno Fox
Edwd Wakham
Thos Shepherd
Joseph Simons
Joseph Drew
Joseph Wormwood
Wm Willey
Jacob Wormwood
Benja Durgan
Steph Jenkins
Francis Drew
Jno Jenkins
Joshua Chesley
Joseph Jackson
Anthony Jones
Saml Jones
Richd Jones
Jno Dam Junr
Hatevil Leighton
Benja Bickford
Jno Leighton Jun.
James Gurdy
Richd Denbow
James Smith
Sampson Doe
Nichs Doe
Jno Palmer
Hopely Ayres
Benja Bennet
Eleazer Bennet
Joshua Crimmet
Edwd Hilton
Joshua Crocket
John Crocket
Hezekh March
Wm Durgan
Wm Durgan Jun.
Jno Durgan
Joseph Durgan
Jona Durgan

Abra Bennet Junr.
Francis Durgan
Jno Lasky
Abednego Leathers
Jno Doe Jun.
Jno Barbor
Jno Footman
Joseph Footman
Jno Follet
Clemt Sias
Danl Doe
Benja Doe
Joseph Chesley Jun.
Solo Davis
Alexander Hodgdon
Jno Daniel
Lemuel Bickford
Dodovah Bickford
Wm Shepherd
Alex Hodgdon Jun
Jno Hodgdon
Jno Mason
Joseph Doe
Paul Chesley
Lemuel Chesley
Thos Huckins
Joseph Stevenson Jun.
Saml Chesley Jun.
Theodore Willey
Jeremy Pinner
Benja Burdit
Saml Adams
Steph Burss
Ezekl Hilton
Steph Jenkins Jun.
Danl Rogers
Joseph Smith Jun.
Jno Langley
Charles Hilton
Moses Edgerly
Troworthy Durgan
Joseph Sias
Thos Chesley
Winburn Adams
Jno Adams
Joseph Kent
Thos Chesley
Job Langley
Caleb Wakeham
Thos Willey
James Drisco
Thos Drew
Elijah Drew
Miles Randall
Benja Mathews
Thos Laighton
Gershom Matthews
Francis Footman
Benja Bennet
Philip Crimmet

Ordered to be suspended til next Session.

A List of the training men under Thoˢ Millet, Capⁿ of Dover.

Sergt Daniel Titcomb
Ser. *Thomas Laighton*
Corpl John Clemants
Corl John Young
Corl John Bickford
Corl *John Laighton*
Joshua Perkins
Paul Cenney
Ephraim Tebbetts
Thomas Ash
Joshua Cenney
Samuel Holden
Joseph Bickford
Timothy Robinson
John Cromwel
Solomon Perkins
John Perkins
Richard Plummer
Thomas Cenney
Thomas Cenney Junr
Oatis Pinkham
Thomas Waits
Joseph Crumwel
Abraham Nute
John Pearl
Nathaniel Aston
Joseph Aston
Thomas Drew Junr
Moses Varney
Hatevil Hall
James Jackson
Timothy Moses Jun.
John Huckins
David Daniel
Samuel Chesley
Stephen Willey
Anthony Jones
Joseph Daniel

John Daniel
Henry Bussey
Eli Demerrat Jun.
James Clark
Job Demerrat
John Ham Jun.
Daniel Bunker
Zechariah Bunker
Henry Tibbitts
John Field Jun.
Samuel Starboard
John Starboard
John Tuttle
James Tuttle
Thomas Tuttle
Nicholas Tuttle
Samuel Hays
Joseph Tibbetts
Shadrach Hodgdon
John Giles
James Laighton
Trustrum Pinkham
William Allen
Joseph Allen
Paul Nute
Thomas Pinkham Jr.
Hatevil Laighton
John Harvey
Nathaniel Roberts
Thomas Roberts
Joseph Dam
Joseph Hall, Jun.
Howard Henderson Jun.
Samuel Roberts
Ebenezr Tuttle Jun.
Joseph Hubbard
Tobias Randol
Charles Bickford
Ichabod Tibbitts
Stephen Hawkins
Aaron Roberts
Thomas Ransom
Amrous Bantom
Isaac Allen
Clemant Ham
Benjamin Bodge Jun
Vincent Torr
Stephen Pinkham
James Pinkham Jun.
Jonathan Daniel
Jacob Daniel
Jonathan Harriman
John Randol
Joseph Drew
John Follet
Solomon Pinkham Jun
Robert Wille
Benjamin Wille
Clement Harvey

Total 97

July ye 21 1740

A List of ye Second foot Company of Dover, July the 24, 1740.

Seargants John Horn
Jonathan Young
Epherem Ham
John Tasker
Corporals Ezera Kembel
Natha. Young
John Demerit
Drumers John Carter
John Marden
Daniel Plumer
Job Clement
Saml Clement
Saml Dam
Saml Alley
John Alley
John Muckelaroy
William Whitehouse
James Withrel
John Hanson Jun.
William Horn
Nathl Horn
Ezekel Wentworth
Epherem Wentworth Jun.
Joseph Connor
James Chesley
John Varney
Nemiah Kembel
Thomas Hanson
John Horn Jun.
John Waldron
Nathn Varney
Stephen Varney
Elihu Heays
John Tebits
Nathn Ham
Daniel Ham
Daniel Horn
Peter Hayes

John Hayes Jun.
Saml Varney
Thomas Heays
Ezekiah Heays
Mark Geils
Ichobod Heays
John Tebbits Jun.
Jeremiah Tebbits
Isaac Twombly
Thomas Young
Isaac Young
Robart Euens Jun.
John Euens
Nathl Hanson
Benjn Evens
Robart Hanson
John Cook
Henry Bickford
Nathn Garland
William Twombly Jun.
Saml Young
Stephen Oats
Isral Hodgdon Jun.
John Hanson
Timothy Hanson
James Kelley
Joseph Hanson Jun.
Ichobed Cenney
John James
Moses Winget
Joseph Hall
Richard Scammons
Jona Church
Isaac Watson
Saml Hoge
Henry Marshal
Richard Pinkem Jun.
Ebenezer Pinkem
James Biber
Maul Hanson
John Twombly Jun.
Benja Allen
Saml Davis
Saml Alley Jun.
William Hill
Saml Williams
Jonth Ham
William Perey
Joseph Hix
Francis Dru
Solemon Emerson
William Tasker
Thomas Bickford
Ezariah Budey
Derey Pitman
Zechariah Pitman
Zechariah Edgerly
William Demeret
Daniel Harvey
John Bussell
William Bussell
James Huckens
Nathl Davis
John Fay Jun.
Ralph Hall
Joseph Perkins
Benjn Hall
John Brown
Joseph Jackson
Clement Dru
Meshack Dru
Elezir Davis
Daniel Clement
Richard Cleark
Jonth Hanson
George Hearn
Joseph Husings
James Young
Jabez Garland
Saml Heard
James Richard
Isaac Horn
Joseph Ham
Ruben Heays
Joseph Heays
Saml Hanson
Daniel Evens
Nathn Hanson Jun.
Ezekiah Cook
Elezer Young
Benjn Young
Joseph Hanson third
Joseph Estears
Isaac Hanson
George Hanson
Elisha Esters
Jonth Chusing Jun.
Saml Gerrish
John Winget Jun.
Saml Winget
John Whighthouse
Benjn Thrasher
Saml Watson
Saml Davis Jun.
Saml Tasker
Thomas Harris
David Dru
Joseph Evens third
Solomon Hanson
Benjn Pinkem
Benja Heays
Job Clement Jun.

A True Coppey pr. Me William Welland Clark
A true Coppey attested by the Clark under oath
JOHN WINGET Left

Total 153.

This is the List of the Troopers under the Command of Cop[ll] *Trustram Coffin in Dover, July y*[e] 29, 1740.

Corpll Benja Ham
Corpll Jos Records
Corpll Jos Thomas
John Young Jnr
James Nute Jnr
Isaac Lebbey
Paul Gerrish Jnr
Saml Heard Jnr
Ralph Twombly
Benja Hanson Jnr
Dudley Watson
Benja Wamouth Jun.
John Tebbetts Jun.
Richard Waldron
Ebenezer Nock
William Styles
William Horne Jun.
Thos Tebbets Jun
Moses Stevens
Shedrech Walton
Benja Robarts Jun.
Eleiah Tuttell
Spensor Wintworth
John Drew
John Heard
Jonathan Durgen
John Drew Jun.
Richard Jones
Joshua Stagpole
Daniell Rogers
Jonathan Watson
Dodefor Ham
Ambros Bamptom
Daniell Horne Jun.
Jos. Drew
Nathaniel Rendall Jun.
Jonathan Hanson
Stephen Jankins Jun.
Benja Jackson
Samuell Stagpole

STEPHEN ROBARTS Clark

Petition against a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Cap[t] General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hamp[r] in New England Together with The Hon[ble] his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in general Assembly Conveaned

Wee your Humb[le] Petitioners without a due Consideration having heretofore Signed a Petition carried into the general Court in order to be set off a Parish by our selves which Petition if Granted Wee find will be greatly to our disadvantage and very hurtful to ourselves and Families for the time to come

first Because that after a due Consideration wee find that our part that have Petitioned are but few in number and many of us under such poor Circumstances that wee apprehend that at present we are in no wise able to Support ourselves & Families and to pay what we shall be obliged to do in order to the settling & mentaining an Orthodox Minister

amongst us. Secondly Because that whenever it may be thought there may be another Parrish the meeting house ought to be set up in the Center of the Parish and not ye Parrish to be Established in manner & form as Petition^d^ for. The meeting house now at Madbury standing almost home to Durham line and will by no means accommidate Many of us Neither many other out settlers who dont live within the Parrish Petition'd for. Wherefore we your humb^l^^e^ Petitioners beg that your Excellency & Honours would in your great wisdom and Goodness take this affair into your wise Consideration and put an end to the whole proceeding thereof all which Wee your Hum^l^^e^ Petitioners in duty Bound shall ever pray

Dover May ye 8th 1744.

Henry Bickford
John Evens
Jonathan Hanson
Robert Evens
Isaac Twombly
Joseph Evens
Joseph Twombly
Stephen Pinkham
Abraham Clark.

Petition for leave to have a Lottery.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire — The Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province In General Assembly Conven'd the 2^d^ Day of January 1760

The Humble Petition of John Gage Esqr Howard Henderson & Dudley Watson Gentlemen all of Dover in said Province as Committee of said Town for this purpose Shews

That the said Town by divers ways & means is as your Petitioners apprehend more burthened with Charges of One kind or other than any other in the Province in Proportion to the Polls & Estates Subjected to Discharge them Among which the Bridges maintained at the Public Expense is not Inconsiderable But especially the well known & now much us'd Bridge over Cochecho River (which is gone much to Decay) is a Great & Standing Expence—That it is now necessary the said Bridge should be Rebuilt for which a considerable sum of Money will be wanting the Levying of which in the Common Way will be too Grievious to be sustained at Present notwithstanding the Urgency of the Demand

That as there are at Present many Examples of Raising money for Public uses by way of Lottery that the money Risk'd by Individuals who will where opportunity Favours be adventurers may be of General advantage the said Town have upon Consultation Judg'd they might make a Good use of this

way for the End aforesaid and directed your Petitioners to apply for liberty accordingly—An as this liberty is a matter of mere grace and favor and not of Justice and right your Petitioners beg leave Humbly to suggest that Considering it in that view the Town of Dover seems to be a proper Subject for that favour not only in Regard of the Burthen aforesaid but also of the Principal Share it has Sustained of all the Calamities Afflictions Troubles & Burthens with which the Province in General has been Concerned from the Beginning—Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that they may have the Liberty afores[d] Granted to said Town & leave to Bring in a Bill accordingly and they will as in duty bound ever pray &c

JOHN GAGE
HOW[d] HENDERSON } Committee

In Council Jan'ry 4th 1760
read & ordered to be send
down to the Hon[ble] Assembly
Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Jan 4, 1760.
This Petition being read

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted and that y[e] petitioners Have Liberty to Bring In a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk.

In Council Jan'ry 5th 1760
read & Concurr'd
Theodore Atkinson Sec'y.

Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of Dover for a Bridge to cross Bellamy's Bank.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Hon[ble] His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened, Oct. 12th 1756

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Dover in said Province Shews That there is a Public High Way laid out in Dover aforesaid from the Road that leads from Cochecho thro' Littleworth so called to Barrington to the Main Road that goes thro Madbury which Highway crosses Bellamy's Bank Freshet or Brook A little above Capt. Paul Gerrishes saw mill over which Freshet or Brook there is no Bridge for want whereof at certain times there is no Passing & thereby the Good Ends proposed in laying out Said way are in a Great Measure Frustrated and is also a standing Grievance to the Owners of the Contiguous Lands by Passengers throwing

Down the Fences for Convenient Passage, when they cannot pass said Freshet which wou'd be prevented by a Bridge.

That the Way aforesaid is Really useful & Necessary which was the Reason why it was laid out and tho' this matter has been Represented to the Town and the Necessity of having a Bridge there urged to make said Way Serviceable without being Injurious to Particular Persons and the Town Requested to Build it at their General Expence Yet they Cannot be Prevail'd upon to do it.

That Every Town is by Law Obliged to Provide for and Keep in Repair all Roads or High Ways Passing thro' them and there is the same Reason that they should Build Bridges where they are Necessary or the High Ways leading to Such Places would be useless tho' as the Law Relating to the Laying out High Ways is Silent as to this matter & it is a Case omitted your Petitioners are Necessitated to make this application.

Wherefore they Humbly Pray the Premises may be Considered and the Said Town of Dover Enjoined to Build a Convenient Bridge at the Place aforesaid to Render said Way useful or Provide Such other Relief herein as in your Great Wisdom & Goodness you shall Judge proper and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

Eli Demeret
Paul Gerrish
John Tasker
Thos Davis
Paul Pinkham
Job Demeret
John Roberts
Samuel Roberts
Solomon Demeret
Ebenezer Tasker
Isaac Buzzell
Joseph Jackson
John Tasker Jun.
Ebenr Demerit
Thomas Bickford
John Bickford 3d
his
Tristram ⋈ Pinkham
mark
John Molony
Daniel Young
Samuel Daniels
Joseph Daniels
William Demerit
Joseph Lebbey
William Gleden
James Davis
Samuel Young
Isaac Twombly
James Young
Jonathan Evens
John Kielle
John Hanson
Ebenezer Varney Jinier
Israel Hodgdon
Samuel Davis
Thomas Davis Junr.
Moses Waymoth
Joseph Hicks
James Jackson Junr.
John Huckins
John Huckins Junr.
Samuel Chase
Anthony Jones
Richard Jones
James Jackson
John Demeret Jun.
Zackriah Pitman
Coner Pitman
John Demerit
Samuel Drew
Daniel Meader
Benja Evens
Zacriah Boody
Nathiel Tebbets
Daniel Evens
Jonathan Hanson
Daniel Cook

Silas Hanson
Richard Cook
John Cook
Hezekiah Cook
Joseph Young
his
Nath ⋈ Hanson
mark
Stephen Hanson
James Hanson
Joseph Evens
Benjamin Evans
Meshach Drew

Ichabod Caney
Samuel Davis
Joseph Twombly
Paul Twombly
John Buzzell
John Wingett
Timothy Perkins
his
Will ⋈ Buzzel
mark
Thomas Evens
Benjamin Bussell.

Prov. N. Hamps } In Council October 13th 1756
read & ordered to be sent to the Honble Assembly
Theo Atkinson Secy.

Province of New Hamp } In the house of Representatives Octob 14th 1756.
The within Petition having been read

Ordered That the Petitioners be heard thereon the fourth day of the Sitting of the General Assembly next after the first Day of Novemr Next Ensuing & that the Petitioners at their own Cost & Charged cause the Selectmen of Dover in said Province to be serv'd with a Copy of sd Petition & this order of Court thereon to appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem die
read & Concurr'd
Theo. Atkinson Sec.

Petition in relation to being set off in a separate county.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire — To the Honourable his Majesties Council and to the Honble House of Representatives in General Court convened this 11th Day of March 1768

We the Subscribers being Agents legally appointed by the several Towns hereafter mentioned beg leave to present our humble Petition unto this Honble Court, and in terms of the utmost Deference & respect to shew forth—that as your Excellency and Honours are about Dividing this Province into Seperate & distinct Counties your Petitioners in their sd Capacity Humbly Hope that as the sd Towns have long since been incorporated and are now become very populous & may reasonably be supposed still more to increase and as some of them have been indulged with certain Priviledges & Franchises & as the adjacent Towns are also settling & greatly improving: Your Excellency and Honours will condescend to confirm a Vote of this Honble Court passed at their last Fall sitting for Dividing

this Province into three Counties so far as said vote relates to these Towns with regard to the boundary Lines only And your Petitioners humbly pray y^r^ Excellency and Honours would indulge them with a Hearing on this important Subject when we presume to Hope we shall offer to this Honble Court such Reasons as they may Judge sufficient to induce them to grant us the Prayer of our Petition & to set off the s^d^ Towns into a distinct & Seperate County with such Towns as were then annexed in the aforesaid vote And your Petitioners as in Duty bound in their said Capacity shall ever pray

John Gage, Otis Baker } For Dover

Thos Wallingford, Jno Wentworth } Somersworth

Daniel Rogers, Volintine Mathes, Jeremih Burnum, John Smith } Durham

John Plumer, John McDufee } Rochester

Paul Hayes, Samuel Brewster } Barrington

Petition relating to a Bridge.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esquire Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire the Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly convened the 13th day of November 1770

The humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dover in said Province Shews

That the Inhabitants of said Town were divided in sentiment about the place of building a new Bridge over the Cochecho River at the Falls and tho' there was a Vote of the Town for placing it below the Falls your Petitioners apprehend the Vote would not have been pass'd had the meeting been general (many persons being then absent in the Woods) or cou'd they have obtained a Second fair meeting so that those who were for having the Bridge placed below the Falls proceeding on the authority of said Vote have built a Bridge below and the Place where the old Bridge stood being on an ancient Highway and most convenient for Travellers the Inhabitants who were for having the Bridge there supposed the Town to be under a necessity of building one there Also which was done in the Course of the last Summer & there are now two Bridges at said Falls which your Petitioners apprehend to be needless.

That the lower Bridge is not so convenient for Travellers nor so well approved of by them nor can the Town dispense with the Duty of maintaining a Bridge above where there has been one for near one hundred years past and therefore a Vote for

changing or altering and placing a new Bridge so far out of the way or at such a Distance from the old place was utterly illegal and had it been ever so fairly obtained cou'd not have been valid without a greater authority than such a Vote.

Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray that the whole proceeding in this Case may be examined by the legislative Authority and the following Questions resolved viz whether the Town had a right by their Vote to change the place of building a Bridge so as to be exempted from building and maintaining one where it used to be—Whether their proceedings have been fair and legal upon supposition they had a right to determine the matter by the agreement of the Town. Whether the Bridge below or that above will be of the most general Service & best answer the public Good. Whether there is any necessity of maintaining both said Bridges and if not which the Town shall be at the expense of building & maintaining for the future with such other matters and things as in your great Wisdom & goodness you shall find incidental and necessary to be determined in order to the regular proceeding of said Town in making their Rates which is not yet done and for the settling peace & good order in said Town and your Petioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Howd Henderson
Joseph Clements
Timothy Clements
John Cenney
Timo Robinson Jr
Jno Waldron Jr
Silas Hanson
John Waldron
Nehm Kimball
Thomas Hanson
James Varney
Thos Hanson Jr.
Ephm Kimball
William Hussey
William
John Kimbal
Paul Husey
Daniel Varney
Jos Varney Jr
Tobias Varney
Stepheu Varney
Ephm Wentworth
Spencer Wentworth
Reuben Wentworth
John Whitehouse
Samuel Ambros
Tom Heard
John Heard
Moses Roberts
Aaron Roberts
Joseph Roberts
Stephn Varney Jr
John Harford
Nathan Varney
Moses Horn
John Horn
Wm Robinson
John Pinkham
James Chesley
Paul Kimbal
William
Tobias Kimbal
John Hoyt
Joshua Varney
Jacob Sawyer
Jethro Heard
John Horn
Benja Horn
Zacheus Purinton
Nathaniel Horn
Paul Welland
Elijah Coffin
Paul Varney
Daniel Heard
Thomas Varney
Benja Hanson Jr.
Saml Varney Jr.
Solomon Varney
Jedediah Varney
John Horn Jun

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Isaac Horn	Jonathan Door
Timo Robinson	Daniel
Elijah Tuttle	Thos Shannon
James Tuttle	John Gage 3d
William Horn	Jno Varney Jun.
Elijah Varney	Ichabod Varney
Samuel Ricker	Isaac Horn Jun.
Moses Rand	John Varney
Ebenezer Horn	Ebenezer Varney
Thomas Goudy	Timothy Varney
Joseph Peasley	Richd Waldron
Jeremiah Tibbets	Richd Kimbal
George Young	Mordecai Varney
Timo Hussey	John
Elisha Purinton	Josiah Wille
Joseph Waldron	Thomas Horn
Nicolas Harford	Samuel Mills
David Rand	Daniel Heard
Willm Waldron	John Varney
Amos Varney	Ezra Kimbal
Stephen Horn	Samuel
George Horn	Ephm Tibbets
William Gage	Pusler Downs
Phineas Ricker	

In Council Dec. 14, 1770
The enclosed Petition read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly

Geo King D. Sec.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Dec. 14th 1770.

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on Wednesday the second day of Jan'y next if the General Assembly be then sitting and if not then on the third Day of their sitting next after and that they serve the Selectmen of Dover with a Copy of this Petition and order of Court that they may shew cause why the Prayer thereof should not be granted

M. Weare Cl.

In Council Dec 15, 1770
Read and concur'd
Geo. King D. Sec.

Copy of so much as is legible examined by

Geo King Dep. Dec.

Province of New Hamp. } In the House of Representatives Jany 16, 1771

The within Petition being Considered. It appearing that there was a Town Vote for Building the lower Bridge it is tho't to be just that the Charge thereof should be paid by the whole Town—But it appearing that the upper Bridge is not usefull for the Publick Wherefore

Voted that the said upper Bridge shall hereafter be maintained at the charge & Expence of said Town and that the Petitioners have Leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

M. Weare Cler.

In Council Jan 17, 1771.
Read & concurr'd
Geo King D. Sec

Another Petition relating to Bridges.

Province of }
New Hamp }

To his Excellency the Governor the Honorable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives of s[d] Province May it please

Whereas by misunderstanding & a party Spirit prevailing among the Inhabitants of Dover in said Province they have built two Bridges over the River one above the other below the Cochecho falls in Dover (so called) the one by vote of the Town the other by your Petitioners & the dispute running so high which shou'd be the Kings and Countrys Bridge each Party strenuously contending for their own they having the Town Vote in their favor and we Antiquity & conveniency on ours to end or determine which we petitioned your Excellency and Honors to say which shall be the established Bridge for the use of his Majesty's Subjects which you were pleased to determine in our favor which we gratefully acknowledge and return our sincere acknowledgements for said favor but by your act or determination you enabled the Selectmen of Dover to assess the Polls and Estates in said Dover as for other Town charges to pay the charge of the lower Bridge which has been done and paid and no provision is made by said act or otherways for payment of the established Bridge. We petitioned the Selectmen but they deny'd then we petitioned two Justices unus Quorum to call a Town meeting of the Inhabitants of Dover to see if they would Vote to pay for the building the established Bridge a Meeting was called by said Justices and the Town voted in the negative. Therefore we pray you will direct & enable the Selectmen of Dover to assess the Polls and Estates in the same as for other Town Charges for payment of said upper Bridge above the falls on their receiving a true and reasonable account of the charge of the same and we as in duty bound shall ever pray. Dover 23[d] May 1773 Signed by us Inhabitants of said Dover.

John Heard
Paul Varney
William Foss
Daniel Heard
Timothy Varney
Silas Hanson
Jno Waldron
John Kimbal
Ephm Kimbal
John Withouse
Timothy Roberson Jr.
Ebenezer Horn
Nathaniel Horn
Samuel Ambros
Daniel Heard Jun.
John Hayes
Samuel Hurd
John Ham
John Varney
Richard Waldron
Ezra Kimbal
John Horn
Thos Hanson
John Waldron
Joseph Roberts
Stephen Hussey
Timothy Hussey
Jno Varney Jr.

Jediah Varney
Nathan Varney
Moses Rand
Ephraim Wentworth
Reuben Wentworth
Jonas Goudy
Elisha Purinton
Joshua Varney
Thomas Varney
Paul Welland
Stephen Varney
Jno Conner
Jethro Heard
John Waldron 3d
Paul Hussey
John Harford
Ben Hanson Junr.
James Chesley
Joseph Waldron
Thos Hanson Jun.
Nehm Kimbal
Paul Kimball
Joseph Peaslee
Isaac Horne
Isaac Horn Jun.
William Horn
Timo Robinson
Elijah Tuttel
James Varney
Ichabod Varney
Elijah Varney
Mordecai Varney
Moses Roberts
Timothy Clemens
John Pinkham
James Tuttle
Samuel Tuttel

In Council May 27, 1772
This Petition was read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly

Geo. King Dep. Sec^y

Province of New Hamp. } In the House of Representatives May 27th 1772

Voted that the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on the 5th day of June next and that they serve the Selectmen of Dover with a Copy of this Petition and order thereon but if the General Assembly be not then sitting then on the third day of their siting next afterwards

William Parker

In Council eodem die
Geo King D. Secy.
Read and concurd

Copy examined by
Geo King Dep^y Sec^ry

Petition relating to removal of Rocks from Salmon Falls river.

State of New Hampshire. }

To the Honorable the Council and House of Representatives of said State.

The Subscribers hereto [most humbly Shew That for many years past a considerable Trade as beneficial to the Community as to Individuals hath been carried on by the people living on what is called Salmon fall River which Trade has ever been attended with the greatest Inconveniences on account of many very large pointed Rocks which lay scattered in the Bed of said River for near a Mile below what is called Quamphe-

gan Landing—That all attempts to raise Money by Subscription or otherways for the purpose of removing said Rocks have hitherto proved unsuccessful the charge of that Business having been deemed too heavy to be borne by the few when the many were as closely interested—That to the obstructions aforesaid your Petitioners conceive it is in part owing that the Trade of said River hath lately very much declined but which they hope will soon revive on their removal.

Your petitioners are anxious as well for the good of the Community as for their own private Emolument, to have the said Rocks removed, and therefore in a Design so benevolent and useful Do pray the aid and Interposition of your Honors so far only as to enable them to raise by a Lottery about five hundred pounds which sum with what *they* can furnish in Labour and material they apprehend will be sufficient to effect the above purpose—And as in duty bound your Petitioners will ever pray &c

Feb. 23^{d} 1779

Jacob Shorey
Elip Randall
Jedediah Goodwin
Samuel Bracket
James Bracket
James Roberts
Humphrey Chadbourn
Stephen Hodsden
S. Hill
Jacob Lord Jr.
Gilbert Warren
Aaron Stackpole
Humph. Chadbourn 3d
Ebenezer Lord
Joshua Grant
John Hamilton
Jno Stanley Jr
Samuel Ricker
Isaac Morrill
Joseph Fogg
Paul Lord
Nathan Lord Jun.
Ichabod Goodwin Jr.
Dominicus Goodwin
Jona C. Chadbourne
Joseph Pray Jr.
Samuel Butler
Nathaniel ——?
Jonathan Tebbets
Thomas Butler
Clark Garrish
Robt Twombly
Moses Carr
Benja Warren
John Roberts

Zacheus Varney
Ebenezer Ricker
John Tebbets
Jacob Quimby
Benja Quimby
William Chadwick
Daniel Pike
Robert Rogers
Danl Woods
John Tucker
Alexander Gerrish
John Haggens
Wm Rogers
Joseph Prime
Jona Hamilton Jr.
Nathan Lord
Danl Haggens
William Pearny
P. C. Hart?
J. Brackett
Thomas Sheafe
Joseph Simes
Rich Champney
Saml Sherburne
Jeremiah Libley
Mark Nelson
John Noble
Jonathan Varney
John Cutts
George Dame
Jeremiah Hill
Saml Cutts
Tobias Walker
Stephen Paul
I. Rollins

Thos Wk Waldron
Geo Waldron

Thomas Shannon

DORCHESTER.

Petition for extension of time to make their settlement.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in Council

The Petition of John House of Hanover in the County of Grafton in the Province aforesaid Esqr. in behalf of Himself & the Proprietors of the Township of Dorchester in the Said County of Grafton unto your Excellency & the Honble Council humbly *Shews*

That by Reason of the many Difficulties attending the Settlement of New Townships y^{r} Petitioners have not been able to perform the Setling Duties required by Charter, That there are Several families now setled there and more soon to remove that they have cutt a Road & laid out most of the Township, and are in hopes of Performing the Setling Duties if your Excell^{cy} & Honours will indulge them with an extension of the Time for making their Settlement. Wherefore your Petitioners humbly prays y^{r} Excellency & Honours Favours to them in granting them such further Time for Setling as in your wisdom you may think proper And your Petitioners beg Leave to assure y^{r} Excell^{cy} & Honours that they will be Solicitously attentive to fulfill their Duties required by the Charter of s^{d} Township and as in Duty bound y^{r} Petitioners will ever pray

JOHN HOUSE.

Ports^{mo} Dec. 3^{d} 1771.

Petition for a new Charter.

[New Charter was granted May 1, 1772. ED.]

Province of New Hamp

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief of said Province in Council—

The Memorial of John House And his Associates humbly sheweth.

That your Memorialists having lately prefer'd a petition for an Extension of the Charter of the Township of Dorchester

now under forfeiture which Extension they since find will be attended with insuperable Difficultys, as many of the late proprietors will neither prosecute their Settlements nor be persuaded to pay their necessary Taxes.

Your Memorialists are now desirous of withdrawing the said Petition & wou'd pray y^r^ Excellency & Honours that they may be favor'd with a new Charter of said Township engaging to admit with them all Such of the late proprietors as will appear to do the necessary Dutys And immediately to bring into said Township a Number of good Settlers—to clear the Road thro' the Same leading to the College & comply with every other Condition or Reservation which your Excellency & Honors may seem meet to direct—and your Memorialists as in duty bound shall ever pray—

JOHN HOUSE For himself & his associates

Portsmouth 28th april 1772.

DUBLIN.

[Originally called Monadnock, No. 3, was granted November 3, 1749. ED.]

Petition to be incorporated into a Township.

Province of New Hampshire }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire aforesaid & Vice admiral of the same. In Council.

The Petition of Josiah Willard J^r^ agent for and in behalf of the Inhabitants and Settlers of a Tract of Land in said Province commonly called & known by the name of Dublin (or Monadnock No. 3) Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioner is Impowered and authorized to inform your Excellency that the Said Dublin is rated among the Towns and Parishes in this Province for the prov^ce^ Tax and that the said place is not legally qualified to raise and collect the said Taxes whereby they may be construed delinquents if the same should be omitted; He also begs leave to suggest to your Excellency that the said Dublin is presumed to be sufficiently inhabited and convenient for Incorporation He therefore humbly Prays in behalf of his Constituents as afores^d^. That they may be erected and Incorporated into a Township and that they

may be invested with the priviledges and powers usually enjoyed by Towns in this Province. The power given your petr with the several signers, being herewith presented, and your petitioner in his said Capacity will ever pray &c.

JOSIAH WILLARD Jr.

Portsmo 25th March 1771.

DUNBARTON.

[This town was formerly called Starks-Town, and was incorporated 10 August, 1765. ED.]

Petition of Capt. Caleb Page of Starkstown.

Prov of N. Hamp.

To his Excellency B. W. Esq. Governr & Commandr in Chieffe in and over sd Province & to his Majsy Council & General Assembly.

Humbly sheweth Caleb Page in behalf of himself & other the Inhabitants of a Place called Starks Town in this Province that by order of the General assembly he was Directed by a particular Warrant from the Treasurer of the Provce to assess a Certain Sum from the Petitioners as Inhabitants of Starks Town aforesd and also the Petitioner received at the same Time one other Precept Directed to the Select Men of Starks Town for the assessing & Collecting the Prv Tax for the Currt year. The Warrts Directed to your Petitioner for arrears of the Prv Tax for former years in these affairs your Petitioner begs Leave to Inform your Excellency & Honrs that the Inhabitants are by no means able to Pay such sums & that if their ability was equal to the Demand they are in no Capacity to assess the Inhabitants as they are not incorporated nor Entitled in any way to Town Priviledges therefore Prays to be admitted to explain before your Excellency & Honrs the Precise Circumstances & Condition of the sd Inhabitants & your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

CALEB PAGE.

Province of New Hampshire } In the house of Representatives Decr 7th 1763 This Petition being read

Voted That Colo Saml Barr & Colo John Goffe Esqrs be & they are hereby appointed to take an accot of all the Polls and Rateable Estate In said Town & make Report to the Genl Assembly as soon as may be under oath

A. Clarkson Clerk.

Province of } In Council December 7th 1763
New Hamps. } Read & Concurr'd
T. Atkinson Jun. Secy.

Province of } In the house of Representatives May 4th 1764
New Hamps. }
The Committee appointed to take an Inventory of Starks town made their Report yesterday which Report is on file and
Voted That the petition be Dismissed
A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council May 5th 1764
read & Concurr'd
T. Atkinson Jun. Secy

Petition in relation to a school lot.

Province of }
New Hamp. }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain general governor & commander in chief in & over his Majestys province of New Hampshire and the honourable his majestys councill & house of Representatives for said Province. The petition of James Stinson of Dunbarton in said province most humbly Sheweth that the Inhabitants of said Dunbarton at a legal meeting for that purpose on the 25th day of October 1773 voted that this petitioner should have the school lot in said town which is the lot number twelve in the fourth range in exchange for fifty acres of the easterly end of the lot number eleven in the third range and the half off the easterly end of the lot number twelve in the same range. Wherefore as it is thought said exchange would accommodate the School in said town as well as the petitioner — The petitioner therefore prays your Excellency & Honours by a resolve or act of Assembly for that purpose would confirm said town vote and your petitioner as in Duty bound shall pray &c

SAM. LIVERMORE, for the petitioner.

January 11th 1774.

In Council Jany 18, 1774
Read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly
Geo King D. Secy.

Province of } In the House of Represent. Jany 18 1774
New Hampshire }
Voted that the Prayer of this Petition be granted & that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Resolve accordingly
William Parker Cler assembly

In Council eodem die
Read and concur'd
Geo King D. Secy.

At a Leaugel Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town o fDunbarton assembled October ye 25th 1773 And Voted that James Stinson Should

have the School Lote in said town which is the Lote N° twelve in the fourth Range in Exchange for fifty acres off the Easterly end of the Lote N° Eleven third Range and the half off said Easterly End of N° twelve in said Range

A true Coppy Attest Wm Stark P. C.

Resolve to exchange the School Lot in Dunbarton.

Province of New Hamps. } In the House of Representatives Jany 20th 1774

Upon reading the Petition of James Stinson of Dunbarton in this Province praying that the said Town of Dunbarton might be Impowered to carry into Execution a certain vote of said Town viz: that he the said James Stinson should have the School Lot which is the Lot Number Twelve in the fourth Range of Lots in said Town in Exchange for Fifty Acres off the Easterly end of the Lot Number Eleven in the third Range and the half off the Easterly end of the Lot Number Twelve in said third Range. All which having been heard and considered and it appearing that said Exchange will be for the Advantage of both Parties—Therefore it is Resolved & Voted That upon the said James Stinsons making and executing to the Selectmen for the use of the Town of Dunbarton aforesaid a good and valid Deed of the aforesaid Fifty acres off the East end of the Lot Number Eleven in the third Range and the half of the Lot Numr Twelve in said third Range for the uses and purpose of supporting a school in said Dunbarton forever. That then the said Town of Dunbarton be and hereby are Impowered to appoint some Person or Persons to make and Execute to him the said James Stinson his heirs and assigns forever a Good & Valid Deed of the aforesaid Lot Number Twelve in the Fourth Range which deed shall be esteemed good & authentic to all Intents and purposes

J. Wentworth, Speaker.

In Council Jany 25, 1774
Read and concurd
Geo King D. Secy
Consented
J. Wentworth

Petition of Caleb Page relating to school Lot.

Province of New Hamp }

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Governor in chief in & over said Province The Honourable Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened. May 11th 1774

The Humble Petition of Caleb Page of Dunbarton in the County of Hillsborough Gentleman in behalf of himself and a number of the Inhabitants & Freeholders of said Dunbarton Sheweth That when the Lands in said Town were allotted, Lot number nine in the third Range was laid out for the use of the School forever. Afterwards on the Tenth Day of June 1761 the Proprietors of said Dunbarton voted to exchange the

Schoot Lot with William Stark of said Dunbarton if he would purchase Lot number twelve in the fourth Range for the use of the School. Which Lot number twelve the said Stark afterwards purchased for his *own* use, but hath never conveyed the same for the use of the school according to the Condition of said Vote. Afterwards at a suppos'd Meeting of the Inhabitants of Dunbarton afores[d] (which meeting was called within Six Days after the Warrant therefor issued and the same Warrant put up in a very private Place) it was voted by a few of the Inhabitants that James Stinson of said Dunbarton should have the Lot Number Twelve called the School Lot in Exchange for fifty acres off the Easterly End of Lot Number Eleven In the third Range and the half of said Easterly End of Lot Number Twelve in the same Range In Consequence of which Vote obtained in an unfair and private manner The said Stinson petitioned your Excellency and Honors setting forth the purport of the same vote and that an Exchange of said Lots would be a mutual Benefit. Wherefore your Excellency and Honors Resolved that upon the said Stinson's making and Executing to the Selectmen for the use of the Town of Dunbarton afores[d] a Deed of the afores[d] fifty acres of the easterly End of the Lot Number Eleven in the third Range and half of Lot Number Twelve in the same Range for the use and support of a school in said Dunbarton forever, that then the Town afores[d] should be empowered to appoint some person or Persons to make to said Stinson his Heirs and Assigns forever a good and valid Deed of the said Lot Number Twelve in the fourth Range Since which said Resolve the Inhabitants of said Town have at two legal Meetings voted not to exchange said Lot N[o] 12 as they apprehend they have no legal Title to the same but that the Lot number nine in the third Range remain the School Lot in said Town as it was laid originally for that purpose and that if they were Owners of the Lot Number twelve in the third Range called the School Lot would not exchange the same because it is much better situated and of double the Value of the Land proposed to be given by said Stinson in exchange. But as every Method is and hath been taken to persuade and terrify the People of said Dunbarton to vote in exchange of said Lot agreeable to said Resolve whereby the Peace of the Town hath been much disturbed and if the Inhabitants should make a Deed thereof to said Stinson they must necessarily expose themselves to a suit. Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays that the same Resolve may be made null and void that an order may be passed hereon to stop any further Proceedings upon the same Resolve untill your Excellency's and Honors final order herein and your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray &c.

CALEB PAGE.

Province of } In Council May 12th 1774
New Hamp } This Petition was read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly
Geo King D. Secy

Province of } In the House of Representatives May 12th 1774
New Hamp } The foregoing Petition being Read.

Voted That the Petitioner be heard on this Petition on the Second Day of the Siting of the General Assembly next after the tenth day of June next and that the Petitioner Serve the Selectmen of Dunbarton and James Stinson named in this Petition with a Copy of this Petition and Order that they may have Opportunity to Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition Should not be Granted, and further Voted That all Proceedings on the Resolve mentioned in this Petition be stayed in the mean time.

M. Weare Clr

In Council May 13th 1774.
Read & concur'd
Geo King D Secy.

DUNSTABLE.

[This town was granted and settled under the authority of Massachusetts and remained under that Government until the divisional line between New Hampshire and Massachusetts was established in 1741. The original grant embraced a large tract of territory, including Dunstable in Massachusetts, parts of the towns of Tyngsborough, Ms., Hollis, Hudson, Litchfield and Merrimack in New Hampshire. The name of the town was changed to Nashua by an act of the Legislature, which passed 8 December, 1836. The date of its incorporation by New Hampshire is 1 April, 1746. Ed.]

Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of Pine Hill, Dunstable.

Province of }
New Hamp }

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Westerly part of Dunstable called Pine Hill, Have Bought the Several Places or Farms that we now Possess, Since the Said Inhabitance Petitioned His Excy &c to be annexed to Holles and the Several Persons we Bought of Sign'd said Petition, which Petition we humbly pray may be granted (as we expected it would be) when we purchased our Farms

Dunstable Nov. ye 22d 1763

Joseph Taylor
James Hill
James Taylor
Abrhm Keyzer

Extract from the Votes of a town meeting in Dunstable.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hamp^{r} Regularly Assembled on monday ye 5th of December 1763

An extract from the Vote of said meeting. Whereas John Willoughby Benj^{a} Parker, Elnathan Blood amos Philips Jonathan Hubbard Gershom Hubbard & Daniel more Complain that they have no Benefit of the money they pay for Preaching in this Town by Reason of the Distance they live from the meeting House Therefore Voted that they be released from Paying any money that shall be raised for Preaching in this Town for Three years from this day for their polls & Estates if they continue to own their Real Estate where they now live Except the Town should move the meeting house to the Center of travel & Provided they attend Mr Emersons ministry at Holles during said Term

Copy from Dunstable Record,

JONATHAN LUND Town Clerk

Exam^{d} &c

Dunstable Dec. 6 1763.

Petition of inhabitants of West Parish of Dunstable for a garrison and men.

Province of }
New Hamps. }

Dunstable June 18th 1744.

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of the West Parash in the District of Dunstable do hereby authorize & desire Mr James Stewart in our Names and Behalf to make proper application to the Governmant of New Hampshire Setting forth our being Situated on the Frontier and Exposed to the Enemy and the Necessity we are in of a Guard & pray for a Sutable & Seasonable Relef thare Viz: at meeting of the Inhabitance of the west in Dunstable Regularly assembled and Voted & chose Samuel Cumings moderator. Voted & chose James Stewart to Represent the parish at New Hampshire

Voted to Request six garrisons and five and twenty soldiers.

Capt. Peter Powrs	Josiah Hobard
Lieut Benj^{a} Farley	Willm Hartwell
Ens. Jerathmell Comings	Thomas Peck
Samuel Comings	Willm Colburn
Joshua Wight	Thomas Neuens
James ———?	Daniel Wooster
Peter ———?	John Boyntn Junr
Stephen Haris	Henery Bonton
Stephen Hasaltine	Willm Blanchard
David Nevens	Zerubable Kemp
Samuel Farley	Willm Adams
James Stewart	John Phelps
Jonathan Danford	Elathen Blood
Josiah Brown	Josiah Blood
John Brown	Joseph Chesley
Nathaniel Blood	Stephen Amsj
Samuel Parker	Moses Procter
Benj^{a} Blanchard	Joseph McDaniels
Benj^{a} Blanchard Jun.	James McDaniels
Nichlas French	———? McDaniels
Jonathan Lougey	Jonathan Melnan
Benj^{a} Parker	Enoch Hunt
Amos Philips	Daniel Emerson

Petition for protection against Indians.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Capt. General and Govenor in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England — The Honourable the Council & House of Representatives in General Court convened.

The Memorial and Petition of James Stuart in the Name and behalf of the Inhabitants of the West Parish and District of Dunstable in the said Province Humbly Sheweth the said Parish has been Settled by his Majesties Subjects about fourteen years and a Gospell Minister ordained above a year that the Settlers had an Eye at enlarging his Majesties Dominions by going into the Wilderness as well as at their own Interest that many Thousand of pounds has been spent in clearing and cultivating the Land there and some thousands more in building houses Barns & fences the breaking up of which Settlement will not only ruin the Memorialists but greatly diserve his majesties Interest by encouraging his Enemies to encroach on his diserted Settlements and be also hurtfull to the Province by contracting its borders and drawing the war nearer the Capital

That it was by a long and Importunate Intercession of this Province (and not of the Memorialists seeking) that they are cast under the immediate care of this Government which they conceive gives them so much the better right to its protection that as war is already declared against France and a Rupture with the Indians hourly expected your Memorialist unless they have spedy help will be soon oblidged to forsake their Settlements how Discervicable soever It May be to the Crown Dishonourable to the Government hurtfull to the Province and ruinous to themselves

Wherefore your Memorialists Most humbly supplicate your Exelency the Honourable Council & House of Representatives to take the Premises into your wise & mature consideration and to grant them such Seasonable Relief as May Enable them to Subsist in the War & secure against the Ravage & Devastations of a blood thirsty & Merciless Enemy and your Memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

JAMES STEWART.

Dated att Portsmouth
June y[e] 22, 1744.

Petition in relation to a certain tract of land.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth Esqr. Governour & Comander in Chief in & over his Majestys province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Hono^ble his Majestys Council for said Province

Humbly Shew the Inhabitants of the Town of Charlestown in the County of Middlesex in the province of the Massachusetts Bay That in the Year Sixteen hundred and Sixty by Vertue of an order of the Generall Court of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, There was laid out a Tract of Land on the western Side of Merrimack River for the use of the School of Charlestown aforesaid Containing One Thousand Acres More or Less at a place Call'd by the Indians Souhaganack and within the Bounds of old Dunstable a Coppy of which Laying Out and the Bounds thereof is hereunto annext. That in the Year Sixteen hundred & Seventy one The Town of Charlestown obtained a Deed for the Same Land from three Indians Then Inhabitants near Merrimack River a Coppy of which Deed is Also hereunto Annext. That by the late Burning of the Boundary line Between the province of the Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire the Said Tract of Land falls within the province of New Hampshire

Wherefore the s^d Inhabitants pray your Excellency and Honours That when you shall be pleased to Take Under Consideration the making any Grants of Confirmation the Said Tract of Land may be Confirmed to the Proprietors or at least no ways Infringed Upon by any New Grants that the Proprietors May be held in their Just Rights that the Needless Expence of Law Suits may be prevented and Your petitioner as In Duty Bound Shall ever pray &c

JOHN FOYE In the behalf of the said Inhabitants

Aug. 4, 1742.

Indian Deed.

To all People to whom these Presents shall come Greeting. Know ye that we Nimrod alias Ohkohhan Son of Robin Indian and Wunnuntogin Son of Pahphomo-hammunt Indian and John, Indian alias Jahkananunguiss son of wassarmemit, now Inhabitants of Naamcock on Merrimack River near Patucket, for and in consideration of a valuable sum of money to us and to each of us well and truly paid by the Selectmen of Charlestown in the behalf of their Town, the receipt whereof we do by these presents acknowledge and therewith to be fully Satisfied contented and paid and thereof and of every part and parcel thereof do fully clearly and absolutely acquit release and discharge the said Selectmen and Town of Charlestown their heirs and assigns forever by these presents have granted bargained and sold aliened enfeoffe^d and confirmed and by these presents do fully clearly and absolutely grant bargain and sell alien enfeoffe and confirm unto the said Selectmen and Town of Charlestown one parcel of Land containing by estimation one

thousand acres, be it more or less, situate lying and being within the bounds and limits of Soughgenuck land lying near the upper end of the Second great Interval and on the South side the said River beginning at a great hill called Dram-cup-hill and so extending down the river about two miles and so to ly in every respect and particular according to the record of said thousand acres (abiding yet on file in the County records) granted by the hon^ble General Court of the Massachusetts to the School of Charlestown. To have and to hold the above granted and bargained premises and every part and parcel thereof with all the privileges and appurtenances to the same appertaining or in any wise belonging both upland Meadow Interval-land Swamps Rivers, Brooks broke up land fishing places with all the benefits profits and Commodities of the same to the said Town and school of Charlestown and Selectmen thereof and to their heirs and assigns forever and to their and their only proper use and behoof and we the said Nimrod alias Tash-kobham Wunnuntogin and John alias Pakana-nunguiss for us and each of us our heirs administrators and assigns forever do covenant promise and grant to and with the said Town and Selectmen of Charlestown for the time being and so from time to time that we the said [Indians] (1) now are and of ancient times have been by our forefathers and near Relations the proper and true owners of the aforesaid Land, according to the best title that any Indians can claim, and that we have (And hereafter shall be ready the likes to do in case of need) made out our just right and title therein and thereto and that wee have good right full power and lawful authority to grant bargain and sell all Indian right Title and Interest therein or thereto unto the Said Selectmen and Town of Charlestown and that they the said Selectmen and Town of Charlestown shall and may at all times and from time to time forever hereafter quietly and peaceably have hold occupy possess and enjoy the above granted and bargained premises with all the profits and Commodities privileges and appurtenances to the same appertaining or in any wise belonging as aforesaid without the lawful Lett hindrance trouble molestation or denial of us the said [Indians] or either of us our heirs Executors Administrators or assigns of us or either of us or of any of them or of any other person or persons whatsoever lawfully claiming and having any Indian Right Title or Interest therein or thereto by from or under us or either of us or by any other ways or means whatsoever. In witness whereof we the said [Indians] have hereunto set our hands and seals this fourteen day of July in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and seventy one. Nimrod alias Tash ⋊ kohan, his mark and

(1) Names as before. ED.

a seal Pakanun ⋊ guiss his Mark and a seal Wunnuntogin ⋊ his Mark and a seal. Read, signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us Joseph Whiting, Eleazar, Monoquasson Jacob alias Patatuck ⋊ his mark Jonathan Danforth.

July 15, 1671. Wunnuntogin and Pakana-nenguiss Indians late of Natakuck now of Wamesit freely acknowledged this writing to be their act and Deed. Daniel Gookin Assistant.

July 15, 1671 Nimrod Alias Tashkohhan acknowledged this Instrument to be his act and Deed before me. Edwd Tyng Assiss^t

Charlestown Octo^br 8th 1695. Entred by Saml Phipps Record^r Copy from the Registry of Deeds for middlesex Book 10, page 425–6

Examd. by

Fras. Foxcraft Reg^r

At a Second Sessions of the General Court held at Boston ye 16th of October 1660

By Virtue of an Order of the Generall Court laid out for the use of the School of Charlestown, One Thousand Acres of Land more or Less in the Wilderness on the Western Side of Merremacke River at a place comonly called by the Indians Souhaganucke beginning at the foot of a great hill and so extending Eastward about Two Miles down the said River & bounded with the River North and by Land laid out for Mrs. Anna Cole on the East. The Wilderness elsewhere Surrounding according to marked Trees all which are Sufficiently bounded with C. and is more fully Demonstrated by a Plat taken of the same by

Jonathan Danforth Surveyor

The Court doth allow and approve of this Return
A true Copy as of Record

Attest J. Willard Secy

Petition in relation to conflicting town meetings.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt. General Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Honble His majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly convened the 10th Day of May 1748

The Humble Petition of Joseph Blanchard of Dunstable in said Province in behalf of himself & other Freeholders & Inhabitants of the said Town Shews

That on the 12th Day of March last past the Selectmen of Dunstable afores^{d} Issued a Warrant Directed to the Constable of said Town Requiring him to Warn all the Inhabitants of said Town who were Qualified to Vote in the choice of Town officers to meet the 30th Day of the same month to chuse Town officers for the Current Year. &c. That the Inhabitants of the said Town accordingly met & after some Debate Concerning the Qualifications of Voters in such affairs they proceeded to the Business of the meeting & fifty three then assembled who were Qualified according to the Laws by which they had heretofore been Govern'd who Divided into two parties thirty six in one & Seventeen in the other & each chose a moderator Select men & all other Town officers who are all sworn to the faithful Discharge of their Respective Offices whereby there are two or a Double set of officers for every office in the said Town the Evident Consequence of which is the utmost confusion—That there is an absolute necessity for Officers in the said Town Legally chosen & Qualified whose Authority there may be no Just Grounds to Dispute as well with Regard to the Province taxes as to those matters & things which more Immediately Concern the Town the Decision of which in the Common Course of the Law would be both tedious & Expensive and not answer the Exigencies of the Town. That these Inconveniences to the said Town are in a great measure owing

to their particular Circumstances being but Lately Incorporated can have no Custom to Govern their proceedings in such cases And to the Defect of the Province Laws Relating hereunto. For your Petitioner cannot find there is any Law of this Province that Determines the Qualifications of Voters in such Town meetings for the Choice of Town Officers the only Law that Relates to that matter Says That the Free holders & other Inhabitants of Each Town Ratable at twenty Pounds Estate to one Single Rate besides the Poll &c. Shall Vote But there being no Law that Distinguishes what Estate is Ratable and what is not (which yet the very Term Ratable Estate supposes) the Directions of this Law in this case are Intirely useless

That it would greatly Contribute to the Peace and Dispatch of such meetings if the Law was Express & Clear who should Govern them till a moderator is fairly chosen for in matters of Importance & when the People are Divided every man having an Equal Right to Govern they dispute as hotly about that as any matter they have to do In which point the Law is Intirely Silent and with Respect to Towns newly Erected no customs can have Existence (as was before hinted) But such as can have no operation that Such Places Especially must Labour under Insuperable Difficulties unless aided by the General assembly or the Standing General laws of the Province in this Particular amended

Wherefore your Petitioner most Humbly Prays that the Premises may be consider'd with all Convenient Dispatch—That the Choice made by the majority of the Votes afores[d] may be confirmed and declared valid or that the whole proceedings may be nullified and a new meeting called under the Direction of the General assembly—and some Law Enacted that may Prevent the like Inconveniences for the future. And your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray &c

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

In Council May 17, 1748
read & ordered to be sent down
to y[e] Hon[ble] House
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Prov of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 17th May 1748

Voted that y[e] Petitioner be heard on this Petition y[e] next Thursday come seven night & that he (at his own cost) serve both sets of Selectmen & both Town Clerks that were chosen on s[d] thirtyeth of March with a copy of this Petition & this order of Court between this Day & y[e] next Fryday night that they may shew cause if any they have why y[e] Prayer of y[e] Petition should not be granted

D. Pierce Clk

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurred
Theo Atkinson Secy

Eodem Die
Assented to
B. WENTWORTH.

May 26th 1748

Voted That ye whole Proceedings of ye Town of Dunstable at their meeting on ye thirtyeth of March last be nullified & made void and it is hereby order'd that a meeting be held by the Freeholders & Inhabitants of sd Town of Dunstable qualified to vote as is herein after mentioned on the third Wednesday of June next at ten o'clock in ye forenoon at ye meeting House in sd Dunstable to choose a Town Clerk Selectmen & all other Town officers as Law Directs which meeting shall be warned by posting up a Copy of this order of Court attested by ye Secretary at two publick Houses in sd Town ten Days at least before ye Time appointed for holding sd meeting and Capt Thomas Coleburn of Nottingham West is hereby appointed to be the moderator of sd meeting & to be paid for his Trouble therein by said Town of Dunstable and it is resolved that all Freeholders being Inhabitants & all other inhabitants ratable at twenty Pounds Estate according to ye last year's Invoice of sd Dunstable have a Right to Vote at sd meeting & that ye Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

D. Pierce Clr

In Council May 27th 1748
read & concurr'd
Theod. Atkinson Secy

Eodem Die
Assented to
B. WENTWORTH

In Council May 27th 1748

read & non concurrd and Voted that the Several Votes Past at the meeting within mentioned of which Magr. Zacheus Lovwell was moderator be & hereby are ratifyed & Confirmed & that the respective officers ellected at the said meeting be Deemed the Lawfull officers of the town for the year Insueing & that the other meeting mentioned above, held in sd Town at the same time of which Mr. Jonathan Lovwell was chosen clerk and all the votes actions & Transactions thereof be & hereby are made Void & of none Effect and Tis hereby further order'd & Directed that all Parties in the sd Town conform themselves accordingly

Theo Atkinson Secy

Sent down for Concurrence

Prov. of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives 27th May 1748

Voted That the foregoing Vote of the Hon. Council be nonconcur'd & that ye House adhere to their former Vote

D. Pierce Clr

Petition for dividing the Province into Counties.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Govr. &c. the Hon$^{bl\,e}$ his Majestys Councill & House of Representatives in Genl Assembly Conveined. Portsmouth y^{e} 9th day of Apr. 1754.

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Province of New Hamp^{r} on the West side of Merrymack River Would most Humbly Remonstrate That the Extent of the Settlements of this Province is upward of One Hundred Miles Westward from Portsmouth the Place where all the Courts in the Province are held.

That the Great Difficulties of Travill & Expence to and from the Court on all County Emergencys Lays the Western Inhabit^{nts} under Insuperable Difficultys as well as Occasions Great delay to the Partys & Jurors whose Business Calls them to the Courts of Judicatory to the Great Impoverishing of the Government. That wee Humbly apprehend that these Grievances might be in Some Good measure Redressed by Dividing the Government Into two Countys and will be a means of a Great Increase of Inhabitants & Improvements in the western parts of this Province

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray That your Excellency & Hon^{rs} would take the Premises into Consideration & Grant Relief by Dividing the Province into two Countys by such a Dividing Line & with Such Powers and authoritys as in your Great Wisdom you shall Judge Convenient and your Pet^{rs} as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray.

Joseph Blanchard
Zach^{s} Lovewell
Thomas Harwood
Jonathan French
William Cox
George Lyons
Nath^{ll} Perkins
Edward Cox
Samson French
Eleazer Farwell
John Sarls
Zach^{s} Lovewell jun.
Benjamin French
Joseph French
Joseph Eayrs
Samuell French
Charles Cox
Winkall Wright
James Jewit
David Clemons
William Lund
Henry Parker
Samuel Kenney
Thomas Lund
Oliver Woods
Jonathan Lund
John Huston
Medad Combs
Charls Butterfield
Isaac Powers
Jonathan Powers Jun
John Snow
——— ———?
John Roberson
James Sawyer
John Honey
William Harris
Thos Kellecut
Jonathan Powers
Samuell Perham
Giddon Honey
Jonathan Combs
James Taylor
William Lancey
John Butterfield
John Alld
Thomas Butterfeld
John Butterfeld Jun.

John Alld Jun
Thomas Lancey
James Combs
Nehemiah Lovewell
Ephraim Lund
John Pirkin?
Ephraim Butterfeld
Thomas Mane
Ephraim Butterfeld Jr.
Stephen Butterfeld
Jeems Herwood
John Herwood
Jeams Herwood Jun.
William Blanchard
John Phelps
Amos Phillips
Jonathan Phelps
Benj[a] Parker
Elnathan Blood
Daniel Moor
David Hobart
Gershom Hobart

Joseph Still
Daniel Merrill
Henry Kinne
Jeremiah Colburn
Samuel Huston
Daniel Searles
John Combs
Joseph Winn Jun.
Phineas Lund
Peter Honey
Jo[s] Hale
Salvanus Whitney
Thomas Heall
Thomas Blanchard
Banjaman Davis
Tho[s] Davis
John Aven
Jonathan Cram
Thomas Pollard
Ephraim Adams
James Searles

Warning for a Town meeting.

Province of }
New Hamp }

Whereas the General Court by Law have Impowered Eleaz[r] Tyng, Zacheus Lovewell and Joseph French Esqr. to call a meeting of the Proprietors of the Common and undivided [Land] in Old Dunstable for Choosing a Clerk and for agreeing on Som meathod for calling meeting of said Proprietors for the future in s[d] Law it is Provided that no Person shall appear or Vote as an attorney for more than one original Share. These are Therefore to Notifie and Warn the proprietors aforesaid that they meet at the House of M[r] Benjamin French Molder in Dunstable in the Province afore[sd] on the Thirtyeth Day of April Next at nine of the Clock in the morning Then and there

1 To Choose a Clerk to said proprietors

2 to agree on som method for Calling meeting of Said proprietors for the future.

Dunstable March 18, 1760.

Eleaz[r] Tyng
Zacheus Lovewell
Joseph French

New hampshire Dunstable april 30th 1760 the above haveing ben Posted and Published according to Law, The proprietors mett at time and place agreeable to the above Notice and made choice of M[r] John Tyng for their Moderator by a majority of the Interest Present

Eleazer Tyng
Zacheus Lovewell
Joseph French

Att a meeting of the Proprietors of the Common and undivided Land in old Dunstable held at the house of M[r] Benjamin French Inholder in Dunstable in New Hamps April 30, 1760

The proprietors haveing been called upon to give in their votes for a Clerk and Their Votes Colected Sorted and Counted it appeared that

Joseph French Esqr was Chosen by a Majority of the Interest Present who was sworn to the faithfull Discharge of his Office by Mr Justice Lovewell

Then the following method for calling meeting for the future was agreed on and Voted that upon application of five of the said Proprietors to the Clerk of s^{d} proprietors in writing under their hands desireing a meeting of s^{d} Proprietors he is directed and Impowered to call a meeting of the s^{d} Proprietors by Posting up a Notification at some Publick place in Dunstable in Newhamp^{r} and in Dunstable in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and Notifying the same in the Boston Gazatt fifteen Days before the said meeting Expressing in the s^{d} Notification all such matters and things as are desired to be Transacted at s^{d} meeting the s^{d} meeting or meetings to be appointed and held in Dunstable in New Hampshire as the Clerk shall appoint and in Case of the Death of the Clerk or his Refusell to Call a meeting or meetings as aforesaid then and in such case Co^{ll} Tyng and Leutenant Robert Fletcher or either of them upon such application are Directed and Impowered to call such meeting or meetings as aforesaid.

Attest John Tyng moderator

A true Copy atest pr. Joseph French Proprietors clerk

Att a meeting of the Proprietors of old Dunstable at the House of Mr. Benjamin French inholder in Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire on Thursday ye 24 day of July 1760 Voted and Chose Mr Joseph Blaney moderator Then voted that this meeting be adjourned to the Wednesday the 15 day of october next ensuing to the House of Thos Harwood Inholder in Dunstable to meet again at two of the Clock in the afternoon in order to act on the articles in the notification for this meeting.

October ye 15 1760 the Proprietors of old Dunstable being meett according to the above adjournment at the house of Mr Thomas Harwood Inholder in Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire and the moderator did not attend the meeting and the said Proprietors waited untill the evening of said day and then the Question was put to the said Proprietors whether they would proceed to go on with the Business of said meeting and it was answered in the negative by the majority of the s^{d} Proprietors present and then the said proprietors Dispersed

A True Entry of all the Votes and Proceedings of s^{d} meeting

pr. Joseph French Prop^{r} Clerk

A True Copy attest pr. Joseph French Prop^{r} Clerk

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable Regularly Assembled ye 3^{d} day of Feby 1763.

Extracts from the votes of said meeting.

A Vote Proposed as followeth

That Jonathan Lovewell Esqr Capt. Nehemiah Lovewell & Lieu^{t} Robert Fletcher be a Com^{tee} to make Answer to the Petition of John Willoughby & others who Pray that they may be set off to Holles and that they or either of them attend the General Court and opose said Petition as it is unreasonable and there shew reason why it should not be Granted:

Passed in the Affirmative

A True Copy pr Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

Feby ye 3^{d} 1763

Saml Hobart as attorney for the town of Dunstable.

We the Subscribers of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire

Constitute and appoint Sam[l] Hobart of holles in the Province aforesaid Gent[n] our Lawfull attorney in the matter of Gitting a Part of Said Dunstable annexed or Joined to holles aforesaid to Carry on a Petition of us the Subscribers in the General Cort wherein we Signify our Desire of having a part of Dunstable annexed to holles aforesaid to do all we ourselves might or could Lawfully do in or about the premises if Present by virtue hereof as Witness our hands and seals this fourth Day of march A. D. 1763

Signed Sealed & Deliver'd
in Presents of
John Willoughby Jr.
W[m] Cumings

David Hobart
Daniel Mesam
James Hobart
Elnathan Blood
Amos Phillips
Gershom Hobart
Benj[a] Parker
Jonathan Hobart
Oliver Lawrence

Answer to the Petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Dunstable.

Province of }
New Hamp }

To his Excellency the Governor & the Hon[le] his majesty's Council and assembly of said Province.

Whereas sundry Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable have Petitioned your Excellency & Hon[rs] Complaining that they are unjustly used by Dunstable and Praying that they may be Fread from Supporting the Gospel where they can have no benifit thereby and be added to Holles Therefore we the Subscribers by order of the Town of Dunstable Beg leave to answer said Petition and shew that the Comp[lt] is groundless & the Prayer unreasonable as to Dunstable meeting house which they complain of its being at so Great a distance from them if it is unjustly fixed it is owing to them Selves for many of them voted to have it there and non of them Voted against it for after the Timber was drawed to the place a Vote could not be obtained to Raise it where it is before the Petitioners agreed to it and they can have the meeting house moved where it will be Just and equal to have it where they please for when ever they have endeavoured to have it moved there has been enough of the Town to Join them in it so as to obtain a vote for it as appears by the votes herewith and when such votes have been passed they have failed pursuing it for fear it should be done and so they prevented from being set off to Hollis as they have in time past so it seems they are now stired up by some of Hollis people to bring this Petition in order to uphold the unjust proceeding of Hollis in setting their meeting house where it now is for in the year 1756 Hollis joined these Petitioners in

a Petition of like kind with this and had a day appoynted to be heard on the same and by order of the Gen[l] court the select[m] of Dunstable were notified of it and when Hollis & the Petitioners Inhabitants of Dunstable found that Dunstable was determined to answer that Petition and shew the unjust design of it the Petitioners were either afraid or ashamed to appear in defence of their own Petition. And now Hollis are Endeavouring to have the South part of Monson anexed to them and should that be don and also the westerly half of Dunstable anexed to them then their meeting house where it now is will be aboute Right so that could it now be obtained to breake up and ruin two Towns it may hereafter be sumthing of a cover to hide the Iniquity of Hollis and help the private Interest of some mercenary persons but can't possably promote the Publick Good nor help the Interest of these Towns. In order to Incorporate these Towns so as to promote the Publick Good & the peace and hapiness of the Inhabitants (which by Runing the Province line fell in to this Province) and to prevent the Truble of after Divisions the Governor and Council took a very wise and Parental ceare by sending a Com[tee] of Disinterested Gent[n] to veiw and examin in to the Situation of the Inhabitants that so they might know what lines would best answer that Good end and after said com[tee] had taken such view and heard all parties and made their Report to the Gov[r] & Council these Towns were incorporated as the lines now stand and in our Charter the Governor & Council have Reserved to themselves their heirs and successors the Power of Dividing said Town when it shall appear necessary and convenient for the benefit of the Inhabitants which at present is not nor cant be and the Petitioners having Prayed the Governor and Council to divide them from Dunstable and finding that the Gov[r] & Council are Imovably set to defend the Publick Good and the Inhabitants of Dunstable in the Injoyment of those Priviledges Granted to them by their Charter so that from them they can tobtain their unreasonable Request They now Pray the Hon[le] assembly to give them sum aide as the Gov[r] and council unresonably denighed or neglected to releave them in their dificulty as they pretend but we don't doubt they will meet with same Repulse from the Hon[le] assembly as they have from the Gov. & Council in such an unreasonable and unjust request for should Hollis move their meeting house where it ought to be and the Petitioners act Peacably with their own Town they will then be much nearer to their own meeting in Dunstable than they can be to Hollis meeting as appears by the Plan of each Town and by what they say themselves in their own Petition aboute the distance they are now from Hollis meeting and as to what they urge of

their once belonging to Hollis and helping to settle a minister there is not true if it is they did not live on the places they do now for many if not all the Petitioners have settled in Dunstable since Mr. Emerson settled in Hollis and for them to urge such false please can never answer the end they Expect so as to excite the pity of this Great and Hon[le] Court who can't but abhor the designs of those who try to destroy the peace and ability of Towns to advance sum private Intrest and when the reason they offer is not true and in behalf of the Town of Dunstable we pray y[r] Excellency and Honours would dismis said Petition which is so Groundless & unreasonable and we as in duty bound shall ever pray

Jon[a] Lovewell
Nehemiah Lovewell } Com tee
Robert Fletcher

Dunstable Feb[y] y[e] 4th 1763

Petition of Zacheus Lovewell and Joseph Blanchard.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Gov[r] and Commander in Chief in & over his majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Hon[ble] his majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General assembly Convened May the 4th 1768

The Humble Petition of Zacheus Lovewell & Joseph Blanchard Esqr[s] as two of the Proprietors of Dunstable and in behalf of said Proprietors Shews

That the Proprietors of the Common & undivided Land laying in Old Dunstable so calld live & their Lands now lye in the Province of the Mass Bay as well as in this Province and by the method they had Established, their meetings were to be called by their Clerk who was the Late Joseph Blanchard Esq[r] Deceasd, whereby that method is Impracticable & your Petition[rs] are advised that the standing Laws of the Province do not Direct to any method of Calling meetings in Such Cases.

That as to those Proprietors who live & the lands which lay in the Massachusetts there is no Difficulty, because there is a Law Providing in such Cases but as they are but a Part and as to the Lands the Lesser Part a meeting by virtue of the Law there would not answer the General advantage, nor authorize a meeting of the whole which is the View they have & which the Situation of their affairs Demand, there being a Present necessity of Transacting Some Business at such a meeting. Wherefore they Pray that the Said Proprietors may be Convend in this Province by the Same method they may be there, that all may be called together in the Same way & at the Same time in both Provinces & when they are met they

may unite in One Body & Settle the future method of Calling their meetings, and that your Petition[rs] may have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly and (if should be formed a General act it may Prevent the like application hereafter but which they Humbly Submit) they shall as in duty Bound ever Pray &c

ZACHEUS LOVEWELL
JOSEPH BLANCHARD

In Council May 5th 1758
read & ordered to be sent down
to the Hon[ble] House
Theo Atkinson Secy.

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives May 6th 1758
Voted That the Petitioner have Liberty to bring in a General Bill
Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read and Concurrd
Theodore Atkinson Secy.
Consented to
B. WENTWORTH

Petition by Joseph Blanchard.

Province of New Hamp }

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov &c. of the Province of New Hampshire the Hon[ble] his Majestys Council & Assembly of said Province

the Petition of Joseph Blanchard Esq in behalf of himself and Sundry others of the Prop[rs] of the Common & Undivided Lands in the Township of old Dunstable Who Humbly Shews

That on the 15th day of Octo[r] last said Prop[rs] had a meeting which was held by adjournment and among other things it was Inserted in the Warning of said Meeting to Choose a Clerk for said Prop[rs] But the Moderator that was Chose at the first Meeting did not attend the Adjournment. Therefore a Question Arose Whether the Prop[rs] Could Legally Proceed in the Choice of another Moderator and Proceed in the Business of said meeting. But after some Debate Some of the Prop[rs] did Proceed and Choose a Moderator and a Clerk Who has since Commenced an action against the Former Clerk for the Records of said Prop[rs] and your Petitioner is advised that the Disput is of such a nature that a Determination in the Common Law will be attended with many Difficultys which will Greatly hurt the Interest of said Prop[rs]. Wherefore y[r] Petitioner humbly prays that y[r] Excell[y] & Hon[rs] will take the Premises

under Consideration and appoint Some Suitable Person to Call and Govern a Meeting of said Prop^{rs} for the Choice of a Clerk or grant Such other Relief as in your Great Wisdom you shall see meet and y^{r} Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray &c

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

May 2^{d} 1762.

Province of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives June 25, 1762

This Petition being read The parties Concerned appeared & after being fully heard thereon

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted & that Col^{o} Meshach Weare Col^{o} Peter Gilman & John Phillips Esq^{rs} be & hereby are appointed to Call & Moderate Said Meeting & that the petitioners have Liberty to bring In a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred

Wm Brown Esq^{rs} letter and Power of Attorney.

Sir.

Being informed by Col^{o} Brattle that a Proprietors meeting of the common & Undivided Lands in Dunstable was to be held there the 4th Instant in order to remove Mr French from being Proprietors Clerk & to place in his room young Blanchard; I herein inclose you a power of Attorney to appear & vote for me at said meeting hopeing you will use your utmost endeavor to prevent the records belonging to this Propriety from returning into the hands of a family that the Proprietors in general have I believe but little Cause to thank them for the use they have already made of them. My late Brother Benjamin had 4 original Rights in the Town of Dunstable and I am his surviving administrator Brother Samuel & myself haveing Letters of Administration on his Estate. I heartily wish you & the injured part of the Proprietors a good Issue of this affair & remain Sir

Your most Humble Servt

W. Browne

Beverly June 2^{d} 1760
Mr. John Tyng

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable at the meeting house in Said Town on the sixth day of October 1760 Voted and Chose Jonathan Lovewell Esqr. moderator Voted that Zacheus Lovewell Esquire hire preaching untill the Last of November Next and that he Draw money out of the Treasury to pay the saim and that Two Hundred pounds old Ten^{r} be raised and assessed on the Inhabitance of this Town for that End

Voted that the Meeting house be moved and that Messrs. Joseph Fletcher Joseph Danford and Abraham Kindal be a Comitte to fix a place where will be Just and Equal and that Elathan Blood and John Serls be a Comittee to wait on said Comittee and Git them to attend on said Business and that a Survaor be Provided if need be and all the Cost be paid by the Town

And then it was Voted that the meeting Should be adjourned five

weeks to meet at the Dwelling house of Coll° Zacheus Lovewell Esquir and the meeting was adjourned

Acordingly November ye 10 1760 the Inhabitants of said Dunstable meat acording to adjournment

the Comittee appointed to fix the meeting house place reported that theay tho^t the most Just Place for a meeting house for this Town is about one Hundred rods westardly from Lund Bridge so called by a pine Tree marked ‡ on the Sotherdly side of the road that Leads to Thos Hails Land from said Bridge

Proposed that the Vote Passed ye 6th of October to sett of John Willoby with his Lands to Hollis to be reconsidered Passed in affirmative.

Proposed that John Willoby and his Land that viz about 130 acres about his house be set off to Hollis upon Conditions he pay Town and Province Tax with this Town untill be dun by Gen^ll Court Passed in the affirmative.

Province of New Hamp^r (Seal) To Oliver Constable of the Town of Dunstable in said Province Greeting in his majestys name you are hearby Required forthwith to Notify and warn all the Inhabitants of said Dunstable that theay Esemble and meet at the meeting house in said Dunstable on Monday ye Sixth Day of october next att Two of Clook afternoon 1 to see if the Town will agree that John Willoby and others att pine hill be sett off to Hollis with their Lands. 2 to se if the Town will agree to hire preaching and do anything Relative thereto as shall then be agreed on.

3 to se if the Town will Build a Bridge over Nashua river against Jon^a Powers Jun^rs Land and do what shall be agreed on Relating the saim

4 to raise any sums of money for Town Chardges as shall be agreed on

5 to se if the Town will agree to move the meeting house in the Center of Land or where will be Just and equal and do anything to Effect the Saim as shall then be agreed on and se that you make Due return

ZACHEUS LOVEWELL
Dunstable Sep ye 17th 1760 JONATHAN LOVEWELL
JOSEPH FRENCH

Province of New Hamp^r

Dunstable october ye 6th 1760 Pursuant to the within Writen warant I have notefied and warned all within mentioned to meet at the Time and Place within mentioned and for the Business within mentioned

Oliver Larnwance Constable

A True Copy Examd

Jon^a Lovewell Town Clerk

Voted that Col° Lovewell Coll° French Capt Lund Benj^a French and Danl Serls be a Comittee To Treat with the Inhabitance of Pine Hill about there being sett off to Hollis and that theay make repoart to the Town at the Next adjournment of this meeting then Voted that the meeting be adjourned to the 24th of November Instant to the Dwelling hous of Zacheus Lovewell Esquir to meet at one of the Clook afternoon and the meeting was adjourned accordingly November ye 24th 1760 the Inhabitance of Dunstable meet according to adjournment the Comittee apointed to treat with the Inhabitance of pine hill about there being sett off to Hollis reported that the said Inhabitance offered fifteen

hundred pound old Ten^{r} to the Town if theay were sett off and a Vote was Proposed to se if the Town would sett off said Inhabitance to hollis and it Passed in the negative. A vote was proposed to se if the town would except the Com'ttees report about the meeting house place. It passed in the negative

Voted—the Vote Passed ye 6 of october last to move the meeting house be reconsidered a Vote was Proposed the Inhabitance of Pine Hill should be Excused from paying to the men raised for hireing Preaching Passed in the negative

Voted that the Messrs Joseph Fletcher Abraham Kimbel Joseph Danforth be alowed fifty six pound old Tenor in full of ther account for the Service for fixing the meeting house Place and Zacheus Lovewell Esquire Twenty four pound old Ten^{r} his account Entertaing the Comittee and Benj^{a} French his account for Ditto three pound six Shillings old Tenor and Benj^{a} Parker his account for Ditto Twelve pound old Tenor.

Thos Harwood his account for Ditto Twenty four Shillings old tenor

Elathan Blood and John Serls for waitting on the Comittee and gitting them to attend the Business Twenty six pound Ten Shiling old Tenor and the saim be asesed on the Inhabitance of this Town and paid out of Tresuary to the Several Persons as alowed above and then the meeting was Dismised.

A True Entrey of the Votes of said meeting

Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk

A Copy true from Dunstable Town Book of Records

Exam'd pr. Jon^{a} Lovewell Town Clerk

Dunstable Novr ye 26, 1760.

Letter to Hon. Henry Sherburne.

Sir We the Subscribers Proprietors in Dunstable having this day seen a Copy of a petition of Mr Jo^{s} Blanchard for himself & Sundry others wherein we think facts are misrepresented there was a meeting of the proprietors at the desire of Mr. Blanchard who was desirous to have his brother Clerk the Proprietors in general are well pleased with Coll^{o} French their present Clerk. the question put at that meeting was whether they would proceed any further in the business of s^{d} meeting and Determined in the negative the meeting dismissed and after most of the Proprietors and Clerk gone the petitioner late at night as we hear attempted to go on with the meeting & chose himself moderator and his brother Clerk which attempt we think unworthy of a Gent^{m} and his brother has since brought his action at Law against Coll. French the Clerk which action is now pending and we think it will tend to the peace of the proprietors to have it there Determined and this petition dismissed & had there been time to call a meeting we

doubt not but it would be the mind of the proprietors—we are your Honours most obedient Humble Servᵗˢ

ELEAZER TYNG
JOHN TYNG
THOMAS HARWOOD
THOMAS LUND.

Dunstable June 22 1762

To the Honourable Henry Sherburne Esq. Speaker of the Honourable House of Representatives to be Communicated.

Papers relating to the Settlement of Rev. Samuel Bird of Dunstable, 1744–1749.

List of the Qualified voters in the Town of Dunstable.

Col. Joseph Blanchard	John Alld
Thomas Harwood	Jonᵃ Bowers
Noah Johnson	Henry Parker
Samˡ Whiting	John Searles
Jonas French	Phinˢ Lund
Jonᵃ French	Thoˢ Cowen
Jonᵃ Lovewell	Nehᵐ Lovewell
Thoˢ Patch	Thoˢ Hale
Isaac Beauchamp	Wᵐ Lancey Jr.
Henry Adams	Josiah Butterfield
Daniel Searles	Benjᵃ Richardson
Joseph Butterfield	Sylvanus Whitney
Thoˢ Lund	Jabez Davis
Wᵐ Lund	Benjᵃ Parker
Jonᵃ Snow	John Willauby
Thomas Blanchard	John Butterfield
Ephᵐ Adams	Ephᵐ Butterfield
Jonᵃ Lund	John Huston
Ephᵐ Lund	Benjᵃ French
John Lovewell Jun.	John Mᶜ Clenche
Joseph Farley	Sampson French

To the moderator of the meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable yᵉ 2ᵈ day of march 1746. This certifies that the above list is the names of the Qualified voters in said Town and all therein mentioned have a Right to vote in the affaires of said meeting

Dunstable March yᵉ 2ᵈ 1746.

JONATHAN LOVEWELL } Selectmen
THOMAS HARWOOD } of Dunstable

This is to certifie that the town meeting in Dunstable the 30ᵗʰ day of march Last past at a motion of Sundry of the freeholders and other Inhabitants for the Choice of a Person to Sort the Votes of a moderator. a vote was proposed by Joseph Blanchard by Poleing Previous to the vote & voted by a great majority they Would and that by thirty five votes Joseph Blanchard Was Chosen for that Purpose A motion again was made and seconded to Bring in their votes for a moderator and that Zachˢ Lovewell by thirty five votes Was chosen moderator

and that by the same number of votes Joseph Blanchard was chosen town clerk & Joseph Blanchard Zacheus Lovewell & John Butterfield was chosen Select[n] and did further Choose Other Town Officers.

Att[r] JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

May 26th 1747

those votes was Certified by major Zacheus Lovewell as moderator after he was Chosen

J. Blanchard T Clerk

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire Assembled at the House of Jonathan Lovewell (Inholder) in said Dunstable according to Law on Monday the sixth day of July 1747

Extracts from the votes of said Meeting.

Voted and Chose Joseph Blanchard Esqr. Moderator of said Meeting it was then voted that this meeting should be adjourned to the last Monday of August next to meet again that day at the same place at two of the Clock in the afternoon the meeting was accordingly adjourned. The Freeholders & other Inhabitants of said Dunstable being meet again at the House of Jonathan Lovewell in said Dunstable on monday y[e] 31st day of August 1747 Pursuant to the aforesaid adjournment y[e] 6th day of July 1747 a vote was then Proposed whether a Minister Should be chose this Meeting or not and it was voted in the affirmative that a Minister be chose this Meeting.

Then a Vote was proposed as followeth—

Where as the Church of Christ in this Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire on the sixth day of July last made Choice of the Rev. M[r] Samuel Bird for their Pastor and Teacher and having presented their vote to this Town with a desire that this Town would Concur with them in their Choice and make choice of the said M[r] Sam[l] Bird for the Settled Minister of this Town Now there fore be it voted and agreed that the said Churches Choice be Concurrd with an that the Said M[r] Samuel Bird be Chose for the Settled Minister of this Town voted in the affirmative (& declared by the Moderator

A true Copy Exam[d] pr.

JONATHAN LOVEWELL Town Clerk

We the Subscribers Inhabitants & Freeholders of the Town of Dunstable hereby Desire & Impower Joseph Blanchard Cap[t] Joseph French & M[r] Jn[o] Butterfield or either of them in Our Names & Behalf to Represent to the Gen[ll] Assembly of this Province the Unreasonableness & illegal Proceeding of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Dunstable in their town meetings the Sumer past and Particularly the Town meeting July the sixth 1747 and the votes at the adjournment of that meeting.

And all votes Relating to the Choice or Settlement of Samuel Bird as the Minister of this town and pray that they may be made void or Otherwise Relieve us in the premises.

Province of }
New Hamp. }

Jason Russell	Gideon Honey
John Lovewell Jun.	Samuel Sarles
Benjamin French	Henry Adams
Phinehas Lund	David Hobart
Thomas Patch	——— ———?
Ephraim Butterfield	Simeon Blood
Amos Phillips	Josiah Swan
Joseph Farley	Jon[a] French
Joseph Swallow	Joseph Butterfield

Joseph French	Sylvanus Whitney
Jonathan Comes	Phinehas Adams
Thomas Blanchard	Ephraim Adams
John Butterfield	Thomas Adams
Elnathan Blood	Gershom Hobart
William Lund	John Willoughby

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the names of those persons y^{t} voted for ye Revd Saml Bird being ye Settled minister of the Town ye 31 of Augt 1747.

Noah Johnson	John Buck
John Lovewell	Gideon Honey
Thos Harwood	Henry Parker
Jon^{a} Lovewell	Nehemiah Lovewell
Jon^{a} Snow	John Alld
Sampson French	Wm Alld
John Shed	Thos Heale
John Searles	Thos Cowen
Jona. Searles	Thos Kellecut
Saml Kenney	Wm Lancey Jun.
Jon^{a} Lund	John McClenche
Thos Lund	Josiah Butterfield
Eph^{m} Lund	Benj^{a} Richardson
Saml Whiting	John Huston
Wm Johnson	John Honey
Benj^{e} Thompson	Jabez Davis

Y^{e} names of those that voted in the negative.

Joseph Blanchard	Thos Adams
Joseph French	Phin^{s} Adams
Josiah Swan	Sylvanus Whitney
Daniel Searles	Jon^{a} Combs
Wm Lund	John Combs
Jon^{a} French	Richard Straton
John Lovewell Jun.	John Butterfield
Phin^{s} Lund	Elnathan Blood
Thos Blanchard	Amasa Parker
Eph^{m} Adams	

The freeholders that are agst Mr Birds Settling and the Sums of ye yearly income of ye real Estate sett agst the name.
Compare with the Invoice

	Real Estate
Joseph Blanchard	100 0 0
Jonathan French	23 0 0
Joseph French	35
Thos Patch	16
Daniel Searles	24
Joseph Butterfield	15
Thos Blanchard	16
Ephraim Adams	30
John Lovewell Jun	16 0 0
Samuel Searles	18 0 0
Joseph Farley	45 0 0
Jonathan Combs	8 0 0
Phineas Lund	3 0 0
Gideon Honey	5 0 0

John Honey	1	
Silvanus Whitney	15	
Elnathan Blood	8	
Jn° Willowbe		
Phillip Clerick	9	
Jn° Butterfield	20	
Eph. Butterfield	14	
Benj[a] French	30	
Joseph Swallow	1 0 0	
Simeon Blood	1	
James Harwood		
David Hubbard	8	
Amos Phillips	7	
Jasen Russell	1	
Benj[a] Parker	17	
Gershom Hubbard	3	
Josiah Swan	10	
Zacheus Lovewell	31	
Tho[s] Adams	38	
Jn° Phelps		
Jonathan Phelps		
William Cumings	15	
	583	
Isaac Beauchamp		
John Beauchamp	60	tending Stock
Henry Adams	25	On his wife & children
W[m] Lund	30	on his Father's Land
Jonathan Bowers	15	On his Father's Land
	130	

A list of the Freeholders in favor of M[r] Bird and the Sum of y° value of the yearly encome of the Real Estate

Noah Johnson	18
Tho[s] Harwood	50
Samuel Whiting	4
Jonathan Lovewell	37
Tho[s] Lund	6
Jonathan Snow	5
Ephraim Lund	2
John Ald	8
Henry Parker	10
John Searls	4
Nehemiah Lovewell	15
Tho[s] Hale	4
W[m] Lancy	
Josiah Butterfield	4
Benj[a] Richardson	6
John Huston	10
Sampson French	10
Benj[a] Thompson	
	193

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable in the

Province of New Hampshire on Tusday the fifteenth day of September 1747 Extract from the votes of said meeting a vote proposed as followeth

Whereas this Town of Dunstable at their meeting ye 31st of august last made Choice of the Rev^d^ Mr. Samuel Bird for the Settled minister of this Town and did not at the same meeting settle any sum to be paid him for his yearly salary—Therefore it is voted and agreed that the full sum and Quantity of one hundred ounces of coin silver Troy weight Sterling alloy or the full value there of in Bills of Publick Credit be paid annually to the said Mr Samuel Bird for his Salary and to Commince at the day that he is ordained Pastor of the Church of Christ in this Town of Dunstable and that the same be assessed on the Inhabitants of this Town and paid to him annually so long as he shall continue in said office. Unanimously Voted in the affirmative.

A true Copy Exam^d^ Att^r^ Jon^a^ Lovewell Town Clerk

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire on Tuesday the fifteenth day of September 1747 Assembled according to Law

Extracts from the votes of said Meeting

then a vote was proposed as followeth—

Where as this Town of Dunstable on the 31st of August last voted and chose ye Revd Mr Samuel Bird for the Settled minister of this Town and Joseph Blanchard Esqr Henry Adams John Lovewell Ju^r^ Joseph French Jon^a^ French Jon^a^ Combs Josiah Swan Sylvanus Whitney Ephraim Butterfield Thomas Blanchard Joseph Butterfield Richard Stratton Ephraim Adams Thomas Adams Phinehas Adams Samuel Searles William Lund Jur. Phineas Lund & John Combs having manifested their dissatisfaction with the Choice and unwillingness to attend his Ministry/therefore voted and agreed that said Persons and their Poles for the time being Lyable by Law to be rated and such Tenants for the time being as shall live on their Estates unless such Tenants shall give their attendance at said Mr Birds meeting be and hereby are Excused and discharged from all rates and Taxes what so ever that shall be raised and assessed on the Inhabitants of this Town for the Settlement Salary or Support of the said Mr Bird and all other their Estate Real and Personall while in their Possession equally discharged also for the Erecting and finishing a Meeting house where the said Mr Bird shall Preach always Reserving as the Condition of this Grant or vote that the Persons discharged as afore said do not vote in any affair Relating to the Said Mr Birds Settlement Salary or Support or the placing Ordering or Building the said Meeting house and in case any of them for the future do thus act in any of the affairs as afore said then the afore going vote to be void as to such person also provided that when any of said persons shall give their Generall attendance on said Mr Birds Ministry the afore said vote where by they are excused to be void as to such person voted in affirmative/A nother vote Proposed as followeth Where as this Town of Dunstable ye 31st of August last made choice of ye Revd Mr Samuel Bird for the Settled Minister of this Town and having determined to set a Meeting house for the Publick Worship of God near the Common Road of passing through said Town viz. the Road that passes by Thomas Harwood to Nashua River Bridge and Thomas Patch Joseph Farley David Hobart Amos Phillips Benja Parker Elathan Blood John Willoughby Jason Russel Simeon Blood Garsham Hubart & John Butterfield having represented their Circumstances to this Town viz. their liveing near the westerly line of this Town so that if the Meeting house should be Built near said road they say it will

in no measure accommodate them and that they cannot with any Convenience attend the Meeting also that they have lately before they ware Incorporated in this Town paid their proportionable part in Settling ye Revd Mr Daniel Emerson now in Hollis where they can now attend with much More Convenience then they can at a Meeting in this Town provided it be near said Road said Persons therefore desire that they may be Excused from paying any thing towards Building a Meeting house near said road and from paying anything towards Settling and Supporting said Mr Samuel Bird so long as he preaches near said road and provided they Constantly attend at said Mr Daniel Emersons Meeting on Lords days and pay their proportion to his Salary and make the Same appear to this Town and that if this Town of Dunstable Should at any time agree upon a place and Build a Meeting house near the Center of this Town or if a Comtee from the Genll Court should settle the Place for said House that then they be not any longer Excused from paying as aforesaid

Now therefore this town of Dunstable having Considered the Reasons offered by said Persons moving them to Desire to be Excused from paying as aforesaid it is Voted & agreed that said Thos Patch and the other persons beforementioned by Name be Excused from paying anything towards Building a meeting House and Settling and Supporting Said Mr Samuel Bird in case the said House be Built near Said Road and that so long as he continues to preach there and no longer and it is provided that if at any time this town agree upon a Place and build a meeting House near the Center of this Town or that when ever the Place Shall be Settled by the Genll Courts Comtee that then this Vote whereby said Persons are Excused be Null & Void

and it is further provided that said Persons Constantly attend said Mr Emersons meeting on Lord's days and pay their proportion to his Salery and bring Certificate from the Officers of the Church in Holles and the Select men of that Town that they have thus done and Deliver the Same to the Select men of this Town for the time being from time to time whenever there shall be any money raised for the Building a meeting house or the Support of the Minister as aforesaid and that they & they only of said Persons who thus do be Excused as aforesaid and it is further provided that Said Persons do not act in any affair relating to the Meeting house or the Minister in this town and when ever they or either of them do, this Vote whereby they are Excused to be Void as to the Persons that Shall thus Act.

Unanimously Voted in the affirmative

A true Copy Examd pr.

Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk

Petition relating to an illegal town meeting.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire. To the Honourable His Majestys Councill for said Province & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened

The Petition of Joseph Blanchard, Joseph French John Butterfield Jason Russell John Lovewell Jun. Benjamin French Phinehas Lund Thomas Patch, Ephraim Butterfield Amos Phillips Joseph Farley Joseph Swallow, Gideon Henry Sam-

uel Sarles, Henry Adams Josiah Swan Jonathan French, Joseph Butterfield, Thomas Blanchard, Elnathan Blood, William Lund, Sylvanus Whitney, Phinehas Adams, Ephraim Adams Thomas Adams, Gershom Hobart, John Willoughby David Hobart, Phillip Woollen and Simeon Blood most humbly Sheweth That your Petitioners are Inhabitants and Freeholders in the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire. That on the twentyeth day of June 1747 Jonathan Lovewell and Thomas Harwood, Two of the Selectmen of said Dunstable issued out and granted a Warrant in writeing under their hands unto John Alld Constable of said Town therein and thereby requiring the said Constable to Notify and Warn all the freeholders & other Inhabitants in said Dunstable Qualified to Vote in Town affairs to Convene and meet at the House of Jonathan Lovewell Inholder in said Dunstable on Monday the sixth day of July then next at one of the Clock in the afternoon, among other things To make Choice of a Minister for the Supply of the said Town and to Give the Minister that should be chosen such encouragement as should then be agreed on or do any thing in order for the Setling a Minister in said Town as should then be agreed on.

That the s^{d} Constable made his Return of said Warrant and that he had notifyed and warnd all the within mentioned to meet at time and place and for the occasions within mentioned That in Consequence of the Said Warrant and Notification There was a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the said Town of Dunstable at the House of the Said Jonathan Lovewell in Dunstable aforesaid on the said sixth day of July afores^{d} That at said meeting a Moderator was chosen—And then it was voted that the said meeting Should be adjourned to the last Monday of August *then* next to meet again at the same Place at two of the Clock in the afternoon and the said meeting was accordingly adjourned. That on the said last Monday in August afo res^{d} at a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of said Dunstable at the place aforesd. in Consequence of the said Adjournment one Mr. Samuel Bird was chose for the Settled Minister of said Town

That at a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable afores^{d} on the fifteenth day of September 1747 (Tho' the warrant for calling said meeting was to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants in said Dunstable to meet) among other things it was voted that the said Mr. Samuel Bird his yearly Salary as Settled Minister of said Town should Be one hundred ounces of Coined Silver Troy Weight Sterling alloy or the full value thereof in Bills of public Credit and to Commence at the Day he shall be ordained Pastor of the Church of Christ in Dunstable That sundry Persons not freeholders in s^{d}

Town voted in & for the Choice of said Minister & for said Salary.

That your Petitioners humbly Conceive that the said Meetings and the Votes past at said Meetings relating to the Choice of the said Mr. Bird to be the settled Minister of said Town and also to the fixing and Setling of the afores[d] Salary on him as Minister aforesaid are contrary to an act of this Province Entitled An Act for the Maintenance and supply of the Ministry within this Province. That nigh Two thirds of the freeholders in said Town are against the said Mr. Birds being the minister of Said Town That the said Two Thirds of said Freeholders own near three fourths of the Estate in said Town that must Support and maintain him the s[d] M[r] Bird upon an assessment. That your Petitioners look upon themselves to be under great difficultys at present and that they shall be still under greater if the Said Votes are allowed and held to be lawfull valid and binding—Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray your Excellency & Honours that they may have a hearing on the Premises and that in the mean time the said Town of Dunstable may be ordered and enjoined not to do or act any thing farther in Consequence of the said Votes And that your Excellency and Honours will make and declare the said Meetings & the Votes afores[d] to be illegall null and void or grant your Petitioners Such other Relief as you shall see meet and reasonable and your Petitioners As in Duty bound Shall ever Pray &c

JOSEPH FRENCH for himself
and Behalf of the other Petitioners

Nov. 21st 1747

In Council Nov 21, 1747 read &
ordered to be sent Down to the Hon[ble] House

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives 21st Nov. 1747

Voted That y[e] Petitioners be heard on this Petition y[e] Second Day of y[e] Setting of y[e] Gen[l] Assembly after the first of Jun[e] next & that the Petitioners at their own Cost serve y[e] adverse Party with a Copy of this Petition & this order of Court that they may have Liberty to shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer of y[e] Petition should not be granted

D. Pierce Clr.

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Nov. 21. Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Prov of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives 9th March 1747–8.

Voted That the farther Hearing of y[e] annexed Petition be deferred 'til y[e] Second Day of y[e] Sitting of y[e] Gen[l] Assembly after y[e] tenth of April next

D. Pierce Clr.

In Council March 10th 1747–8.
read & Concurred
Theodore Atkinson Secy.
Eodem Die
Assented to
B. WENTWORTH

Province of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives 13th May 1748

Voted that the Prayer of ye annexed Petition be granted & that ye meetings & ye Votes mention'd in sd Petition be & hereby are declared illegal null & void

D. Pierce Clr.

In Council May 14th 1748
the above Vote of the House read & Concurred.
Theodore Atkinson Secy.

In Council May 17, 1748.
Consented to
B. WENTWORTH

[It is uncertain to what paper or petition the following names belong. They seem to stand alone. ED.]

Joseph Blanchard
Jonathan French
Joseph French
Thos Patch
Isaac Beauchamp by his son or Attorney
John Beauchamp
Henry Adams
Daniel Searls
Joseph Butterfield
Wm Lund
Thos Blanchard
Ephraim Adams
John Lovewell Junr
Saml Searles
Joseph Farley
Jonathan Bowers
Jonathan Combs
Phinehas Lunde
Gideon Honey
John Honey
Silvanus Whittney
Elnahan Blood
John Willowbe tenant to Joseph Farley
Phillip Clerick
John Butterfield
Benja French
David Hubbard
Simeon Blood
Amos Phillips
Jason Russell
Benja Parker
Gershom Hubbard
Josiah Swan
Zacheus Lovewell
Thos Adams—Attorney to Judith Adams

Nottingham West March ye 31st 1748
this may Certifie that Joseph Blanchard Esqr was sworn to the faithfull Discharge of the office of Town Clerk and assessor in the town of Dunstable for the Current year before me

Ezekiel Chase J. P.

Minutes of Town Meeting in Dunstable March 30th 1748.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants Qualified to vote in the Choice of

Town Officers in the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hamp^re being Regularly Assembled at the House of Jonathan Lovewell in said Dunstable ye 30th day of March 1748 in order to make Choice of Town Officers.

Voted and chose Jonathan Lovewell moderator of said meeting

Voted and Chose Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk.

Voted and chose Jonathan Lovewell William Lancey Thomas Harwood Noah Johnson & Jonathan Lund Selectmen.

voted that the said Selectmen be assessors.

voted and chose Ephraim Lund Constable.

voted and chose Josiah Butterfield & Saml Kenney tithing men.

voted and chose John Searls & William Lancey Jun. surveyors of high way.

voted and chose John McClenche & Thomas Murdough Field drivers.

voted and chose John Huston & Sampson French fence vewers.

voted and Chose Benj^a Richardson William Alld & Benj^a French Hog constables.

a True Copy from Record of the whole of said meeting respecting Town officers Exam^d

att^r Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk

This Certifies that we the Subscribers Inhabitants & Quallified voters in the Town of Dunstable voted in the Choice of the above said officers the day above said

Jonathan Lovewell	Thomas Harwood
William Lancey	Sampson French
Thomas Lund	Jonathan Lund
Ephraim Lund	Josiah Butterfield
John Alld	John McClenche
John Huston	John Searle's mark X
Samuel Whiting	William Lancey Jun.
Noah Johnson	Thomas Cowen
Benjamin Richardson	William Johnson's mark X
Henry Parker	William Alld.

we the Subscribers certifie that Nehemiah Lovewell was present & voted in the above said meeting but being out of Town when the others Subscribed this paper had not opportunity to Subscribe.

Jonathan Lovewell
John Alld

Province of }
New Hamp. }

This Certifies that the Inhabitants that ware Quallified to vote in the Choice of Town officers in the Town of Dunstable in said Province being Regularly Assembled for that purpos the 30th day of March 1748 did Choose the Persons here after mentioned in to the respective offices as is here after Expressed.

Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk.

Jonathan Lovewell, William Lancey, Thomas Harwood, Noah Johnson & Jonathan Lund Selectmen.

voted that said Selectmen be assessors.

Ephraim Lund Constable.

Josiah Butterfield & Saml Kenney Tithing men.

John Searls & William Lancy Jn^r Serveyors of highways.

John McClenche & Thos Murdough Field drivers.

John Huston Sampson French Fence vewers.

Benj^a Richardson William Alld & Benj^a French Hog Constables.

Att Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk.

Province of }
New Hamp. }

Nottingham March ye 31st 1748

the afore said Jonathan Lovewell and Thomas Harwood were Sworne to the faithfull discharg of their Respective offices where they were chose as above before me

Ezekiel Chase Js Pais

Prov of }
New Hamp }

Nottingham West april ye 2, 1748

The aforesaid William Lancey Noah Johnson Jonathan Lund Josiah Butterfield Saml Kenney John McClenche Thos Murdough John Huston & Benja Richardson were sworn to the faithfull discharge of their Respective offices where to they were Chose as above, before me,

Ezekiel Chase Js. Pais

Province of }
New Hamp }

Nottingham April ye 18th 1748.

Jona Lovewell of Dunstable in said Province was Sworn to the faithfull discharge of the office of Sealer of all weights and measures in the said Town of Dunstable where he was Chosen.

before me Ezekl Chase Js Pais

John Phelps and others' assent to Jos Blanchard's petition.

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants and Freeholders of the town of Dunstable do hereby Signifie that we are not for the Setling Mr Saml Bird as minister of this town & should if Opportunity had permitted Joyned with Jos Blanchard Esqr & Others in Petitioning the Genl Assembly for making null & void the vote Whereby he was Pretended to be Chose and are Still desirous that the Same may be done

Dunstable May 3d 1748

Jonathan Phelps
John Honey
Jonathn Bowers
William Cuming
John Phelps.

Remonstrance.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governour &c
The Hon. his majestys Council & House of Representatives in Genl Court assembled at Portsmouth May ye 19th 1748

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable would Most Humbly Remonstrate

That Inasmuch as a Representation of our Circumstances has bin made to this Hone Court Relating our Last March meeting for the Choice of Town Officers, on the 30th of said month by Joseph Blanchard Esqr praying that the choice made by the majority of Voters mentioned might ———? the Town officers by them Chosen be Confirmed or the whole proceeding nullified & a new meeting Called &c

That we are in necessity for Redress in those things and in

as much as the Choice of officers made by the said Thirty Six Whereof Major Zacheus Lovewell was Chosen Moderator & the s[d] Joseph Blanchard Town Clerk Were agreeable to the Town in Gen[l] & in which choice two thirds at least of the free-holders & Inhabitants in s[d] town of any proffitable Estates or such as had bin Costomary to Rase did vote in the affirmative, and should a new meeting be called We Imagine it would be only to chose the same persons over again that the Scarcity of Laborers and the Season of the year so much Demand our attention to our business, our Habitations are so scattered that Warning and holding such meeting at this Season would be very Chargeable.

That if it might be the pleasure of this Hon. Court to establish and Confirm the s[d] officers it would free us from these as we apprehend unnecessary Charges, & Quallify us Imediately to do anything necessary for the Publick affairs of s[d] Town Which is very Humbly Desired &c

Joseph Butterfeld
Henry Adams
Jonath[a] Bowers
Ephraim Butterfield
Benjamin Davis
Gershom Hobart
Elnathan Blood
Thomas Patch
David Hobart
his
Joseph ⋈ Farly
Mark
Amos Phillips
John Willoughby
Benj[a] Parker
John Phelps
John Butterfeld
James Harwood
Thomas Blanchard
William Lund
Isaac Waldron
John Beauchamp
——— ———?
John Combs
Josiah Swan
Benjamin French
Joseph French
Zacheus Lovewell
Phineas Lund
his
Thomas ⋈ Blanchard Jr.
mark
his
Joseph ⋈ Swallow
mark
Jason Russell
Simeon Blood
William Cumings
his
Samuel ⋈ Sarls
mark
Sylvenus Whitney
Thomas Adams
Gideon Honey
Ephraim Adams
Jonathan French
Jonathan Combs
Daniel Searles

Petition of Jon[a] Lovewell in answer to Joseph Blanchard's petition.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Capt. Gen[l] & Governour in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire & the Hon[ble] his Majesties Council & House of Representatives for y[e] Province in Gen[l] Assembly Convened May 10th 1748

Jonathan Lovewell of Dunstable in said Province for him-

self and other freeholders and Inhabitants of Said Town in answer to a Petition of Joseph Blanchard Esqr for himself & others (now lying before this Hon^le^ Court) Humbly Shew—

That in Said Petition is Shewn forth that ye Selectmen of Dunstable by their Warr^t^ cal'd a Town meeting in Dunstable to be of Persons Qualifyed to vote on ye 30th day of March last for ye Choice of Town officers for ye Current year that ye Inhabitants Met accordingly and after some Debate about ye Quallifycations of Voters they proceeded to ye Business & that 53 Men assembled who were Quallifyed according to ye Laws by which they had heretofore been Govern'd who divided into two parties 36 in one & 17 in ye other that each party chose a Moderator Select men & all other Town officers—a Double set chosen and Sworn for every office—the evident Consequence of which is the utmost confusion &c

By this state of ye Case in their Petition they Grant ye authority of the Selectmen to call the Meeting but don't mention who Govern'd the Parties Mentioned who took their Votes & Determin'd ye Choice or whether there was any officer to Enter & record ye votes or show how the meeting was managed—representing ye case as if one party had as good right to act as ye other in any manner when the truth of the matter is That the Petitioners in a very Disorderly uncivil manner took ye Selectmens warrant from them and went out of ye house appointed by ye Selectmen to hold ye meeting in and Gathered a Party together some qualified Voters & Some not so and acted like a mobb of madmen in such a manner as never was done in this Province Since it was a Government—the Selectmen all the while proceed to take votes at the time & place appointed to hold ye Meeting when & where a Moderator was the Voters present orderly chosen & ye business of ye Town orderly caryed on all town officers chosen & duly Entered by ye clerks Duly Sworn as ye Laws & custom of all Towns in ye Government have time out of mind used—which officers your respondents conceive to be ye officers regularly chosen for ye Town & that they ought to Serve in their respective offices—The Petitioners Knew that what they had done was Disorderly yet they did the same with Design to Disturb ye peace & good order of the Town for if they were ye Major part of ye voters Qualifyed they might have chosen who they liked best into offices without Snatching up ye warrant and runing out of doors & holding a meeting abroad in the fields where they were not cal'd by their warrant to hold it the necessity of having officers regularly chosen is evident but the question is whether these Petitioners have right to Complain of ye Proceedings of ye Town in General when they themselves & no others have made all ye Disturbance & Disorders they mention in *their* Complaint.

They further say in their Petition that their circumstances are Particular that they were lately Incorporated can have no Customs to Govern their Proceedings in such cases—and that ye Province Law is Defective & does not say what Estate is ratable therefore Intirely useless That every man has an equal Right to Govern in Town meeting till moderator is fairly chosen ye Law silent about it & that they must Labor under insuperable Difficulties unless aided by the assembly or ye Standing Laws amended & so they pray that their own partys choice (which they call ye major part but was not nearly so) may be Established or that those Votes which were Lawfully passed may be made null as well as theirs

In answer to which ye respondents say that the Petitioners lately Incorporated having no Customs to Govern Begin with very bad precedents to make Customary that any man may Set himself up to Govern in town meeting against ye authority that caled ye same It is such a Practice as was never known in this Government nor in any of the neighboring Governments all ye towns in this Province have always made that their Practice that ye Selectmen who call ye meeting Govern ye same till a moderator is chosen they take the Votes & declare who is chosen moderator & then ye moderator takes his place and Governs That there is Defect in ye Laws of ye Province & that ye Laws are useless is a bold and Dareing affront to ye Government for that in all & every town of ye Province the Laws have been understood & all the towns have been Quietly & regularly ordered & Governed and will be so still notwithstanding ye Disorderly Practice of The complainants who have violated the Laws & Good customs of ye Towns in all ye Governments & to cover their Riotous & bad behaviour complain that there is no Law to Govern them.

At a Legal meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable on the 18th Day of April A. D. 1774

Voted that Jonathan Lovewell Esqr be agent for the Town of Dunstable to Petition those that are in proper authority that the s^d^ Town of Dunstable may have the Priviledge of Sending a Person to Represent them in the General assembly of this Province

A true Copy attest

Jo^s^ Whiting Town Clerk

Dunstable may ye 6th 1774

Dunstable Petition to send a Representative.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Capt General Governor and Comander in chief in and over his majesties Province of New Hamp. & the Honble his majesties Council.

The Petition of Jonathan Lovewell of Dunstable in County

of Hilsborough and Province afore said on Behalf of the Freeholders of said Town of Dunstable in their Town meeting assembled apr ye 18th 1774 pursuant to their vote for this Purpose

Humbly Shews That the said Town of Dunstable is a very ancient Settlement and so long ago as the year 1680 there was Thirty Families settled there and a learned orthodox minister ordained amongst them—

That the Inhabitants wer repeatedly distressed by a Barbarous Indian Enemy and with great Difficulty kept Possession of the Ground. That they were then under the Jurisdiction of the Province of the Massa Bay and for very many years were priviledged by that Province to send a Person to represent them in the General assembly anualy Convened at Boston untill the Divisionall line between said Province took place.

That in the year 1746 the said Town of Dunstable falling within this Province the Inhabitants of said Town wer by His majesty's Letters Patent under the seal of this Province Incorporated in to a Body Politic and Corporate to have continuance forever by the name of Dunstable with all the Powers & authorities Priviledges & Franchises which other Towns in said Province or any of them by Law then had or enjoyed and to their Successors forever.

That for several years since the said Town of Dunstable enjoyed the Priviledge of voting for a Person to Represent them in the General Assembly for this Province

That for about Twelve years last past the Freeholders of said Town have for reasons to them unknown been Excluded from their ancient Priviledge altho they are not only conscious of their Loyalty and attachment to His Majesty King George the Third and all in authority under him and determined on every occasion to Testify their Duty.

Wherefore your Petitioner on Behalf of the aforesaid Freeholders of Dunstable and in vertue of the vote aforesaid Most Humbly Prays your Excellency and Honrs that they may be restored to their ancient Priviledges and be properly represented in Future and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray

JONATHAN LOVEWELL.

May ye 10th 1774

15

Papers

relating to the annexation of the West part of Dunstable (now Nashua) to the Town of Hollis:

Containing

Petition of the Inhabitants of the West part of Dunstable,
Remonstrance of the Selectmen of Dunstable,
Answer of the Agents of Dunstable,
Plan of the territory to be disannexed (1)
Warrant for a Town Meeting in Dunstable,
Proceedings of said Town meeting.
Extracts from the Records of Dunstable.
1756 and 1757.

Petition of People in the West part of Dunstable (now part of Hollis) to be annexed to Hollis.

Province of
New Hampsh

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor and the Hon[le] his Majestys Councill

The Petition of a nomber of the Inhabitants in the westerly Side of The Town of Dunstable in said Province and the Town of Hollis Joyning with them Humbly sheweth,

That your Petitioners that live in Dunstable live in the west side of the Town next to Hollis and are so far from the meeting House that it is all most Empossible for us to attend the publick worship of God there for some of us live seven and a half miles and the nearest five and half from the Meeting House so that we Cant nor Dont go to meeting there and we receive no priviledges with them for they have sot the Meeting House to acommodate them Selves and seem not in the lest to Regard us only to get our money our Difficulties are so exceeding great that make us Dispare of haveing any Comfortable Recving gospeals Previledges unless we can obtain the aid and Assistance of your Excellency and Honnors

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly pray that your Excellency and Honnors Would so far Compassonate our Circumstances as to Relieve us in the Premises by seting us of with our Land to Hollis to which we once belong'd and help settel our Minister and now go to attend the publick worship of god and must if we are Continued as we be the furdest of us from Holles Meeting House is not more than three Miles and a half or four miles and the bigest part about two miles and a half and three miles to the which we can go with some degree of Comfort Wee therefore pray that your Excelency and Honors would be plesed to annex us to Holles with about 2500 acres

(1) The Plan is found in the original MS. Papers Vol. II. p. 267, in secretary's office, but omitted in this volume. ED.

of Land as we have Discrebd in a plan Which will gratly Releve us from our present Difficulties and help us to a Comfortable Injoyment of gosple prevelidges

Wee your Humble Petitioners therefore pray that your Excellency and Hon[rs] would Releive us as in your great Wisdom Shall Seem Meet and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray.

John Willoughby
Elnathan Blood
John Phelps
Daniel Mooar
Benj[a] Parker
Nicholas Youngman
Gershom Hobart
Jonathan Hobart
Amos Phillips
Sam[l] Hobart
David Hobart
Nehemiah Woods

William Cumings
Joseph Farley
Anna Patch

Sam[l] Cumings, Sam[l] Goodhue, Enoch Noyes } Selectmen of Holles

In Council December 16, 1756
read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon[ble] Assembly
Theodore Atkinson Secr[y]

Province of New Hamp } In the house of Representatives Dec 16th 1756

This Petition being read

Ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon, the third Day of the Sitting of the General Assembly next after the 15th day of Jan[ry] next Ensuing & that the Petitioners at their own Cost & charge Cause the Select men of Dunstable to be Served with a Copy of s[d] Petition & this order of Court thereon to appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council December 17th 1756.
read & Concurred
Theodore Atkinson.

Province of New Hamp } In the house of Representatives Jan 21st 1757

This being the day appointed to hear the within Petition and the Select men of Dunstable by their Petition to the General Assembly of the 14th Instant desireing that the hearing thereof might be put of to a further Day for the Reasons in s[d] Petition mentioned & the petitioners making no objection

Resolved that the hearing thereof be put off till the 2[d] Day of the Sitting of the General Assembly next after the first Day of April next & all persons Concerned are hereby Required to Govern themselves accordingly

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

Province of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives May 18th 1757

William Cumings Representing to this house that he was not duly Notified of the time appointed for the hearing this Petition & praying that further time may be appointed for a hearing thereof Therefore

Voted that the Petitioners be heard thereon the Second day of the

Sitting of the General Assembly Next after the 20th day of June next & that the petitioners Serve the Selectmen of Dunstable with a Copy of this order of Court

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred
Theo. Atkinson Secy.

Petition relating to another hearing.

Province of
New Hamp

To His Excy B. Wentworth Esqr Govr &c. The Honle his Majs Councill & House of Representatives in Genl Assembly Conveined at Portso &c.

The Remonstrance of the Selectn of Dunstable in Answer To The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of Dunstable and the Selectn of Holles for setting of Certain Lands with the Petrs that Belong to Dunstable to the Town of Holles

Humbly Sheweth

That Tho the Order of Court pass'd in Councill 17th of Decr Last Directing That the Selectn of Dunstable Shou'd be Served with a Copy of the Petn & Order of Court thereon Nottwithstanding the Petrs have delayed to lett ye Respondts know any thing of Such Petn and Order untill the Eleventh day of this Instant Jany and the hearing to be the third day after the 15th Instant, if the Court Shou'd be then Sitting (the contrary of which we cou'd not know) The time being so short the Selectn Could not by Lawfull Warning Assemble the town to know their minds before the time of Hearing which we Humbly Conceive they ought by no means to be abridged off.

Wherefore we Humbly pray (that unless Their petin be withdrawn or Dismissed without day that there may be a further day for Hearing thereon, and Inasmuch as 'tis probable if the town Resolve to appear and make answer there will be Occasion of Sundry Surveys and Measures to be taken, the clerer to descover the Truth of the facts alledged in their petn which cannot with convenience be done till the Spring & besides the Hardship it would be for Such a Scattered town to Assemble Soner than march meeting Since that is so near, & in the mean time yr Petrs can Suffer no great Ill convenience) That the Hearing may be assigned Some time after the first of may next

Which is Humbly Submitted by yr Excy & Honrs most Obednt Servts

J. Blanchard
Jona Lovewell
Jona Lund
} Selectn of Dunstable

Dunstable Janry 14th 1757.

Petition against annexation to Hollis.

To His Excellency B. Wentworth Esqr Capt. Genl Govr of the Province of New Hamp^{r} &c & the Hon^{le} His Majestys Council.

Whereas Sundry Inhabitants of Dunstable & the town of Holles Joyning with them have Petitioned y^{r} Excellency & Hon^{rs} Praying the s^{d} Inhabitants that are Petitioners may be with Their Lands Sett to Holles, and afterwards in the same Petition pray that they may be annexed to Holles with about 2500 acres of Land (as they say they Have described in a plan) and further pray for Relief as to you shall seem meet

And shew as the Grounds of their Compl^{t} their Distance from our meeting house that it was not sett to accommodate them & that seemingly they are Only Regarded to get their money

Off which the Selectmen of Dunstable had notice by Order of His Majestys Councill & the Hon^{le} The Assembly to shew cause if any they had Why the prayer Thereof Shou'd not be granted.

Therefore the Subscribers Agents of the Town of Dunstable Begg Leave to answer & Shew

That by the Charter of Incorporation a Reservation is made to his majesty his Heirs & Successors, of the Power of Dividing the same when it shall appear necessary and Convenient for the Benefit of the Inhabitants—accordingly their application was to y^{r} Ex^{cy} & Hon^{rs}—How that Petition came to drop down to the Lower house, or they order in a Thing they had no Lawfull cognizance of Wee cannot tell—that in the present case nothing can lye before them to Determine and in this answer Shall address our Selves to y^{r} Ex^{cy} & Hon^{rs} only—

Waving our not being Notefied by Prop^{r} authority if y^{r} Ex^{cy} & Hon^{rs} think meet to sustain their Petition Beg Liberty to State the facts & y^{r} Indulgence to hear them thro'.

That the town of Dunstable ab^{t} 1736 was by act of the Mass^{ts} Divided into two Parishes Reserving for the first Or Standing part (being then ab^{t} to build a meeting house) Such parcell Only as wou'd Continue & not probable to be sub-divided afterwards — The Remainder of what Was then old Dunstable (now Holles monson and part of Merrymac & part of Dunstable,) was made the Second Parish—which then Consisted of ab^{t} 70000, acres had an annuall tax of two pence an acre for four years On all the Non-residents Lands to Enable them to Build a meeting house ann settle a minister with an after Tax of near the Same Sum Greatly Exceeding the necessary use for which the Grant was Intended, however they disposed or divided the money That the first Parish 1738 Built & finished a Meeting house at a Large expence.

That 1741 the Province line was Run & left of the first parish about two thirds of the Inhabitants & Estates on the Mass^{ts} side.

That 1746 y^{r} Ex^{cy} with advice of his Majestys Councill appointed a Comittee to Enquire into the Situation & Circumstances of this Western Acquisition in Order for its Incorporation into towns

That the Settled part of the Second Parish (since Holles) was present before that Comittee and the dividing line between that town & Dunstable was then fixed, after a full hearing of all partys. Tho Dunstable by that line was a quantity Sufficient for a town, yet the Habitable part so small (not more than five thousand acres, Scarce worth Improving) and that so scattered, viewing their past Burdens & Misfortunes with Great Reluctance took out their Charter—On the South the Province line On the East the Great River On the north the Poverty of the land wou'd make no advantage, by an addition Exclusive of the present Pete^{rs} & they Cheifly on the westerly Side Thus Shut up

Tho Holles would admit five times the Settlers & Better Land as Their first Entry was at the Easterly end.

Dunstable for their accommodation only Submitted to the line as it now stands when they Ought to have advanced a mile further West at the least.

On examination we find that Holles on True measure is ab^{t} eight miles in length East & west And about four miles & half north & South promiscuously Settled at Each end. Sometime after their Incorporation Holles set up a meeting house with part of the money we & others had paid for that use & sett it about a mile an half from their East line Regardless of the Comp^{l}^{ts} of the Inhabitants & prop^{rs} on the westerly part so that many of them now are eight miles as they must travil from their meeting much further than any of Dunstable are from Our meeting house. Had measures in Equity been taken as was in Dunstable to place their meeting house the present Pet^{rs} wou'd be many miles nearer to ours (& doubtless will soon be the case)

Wee are Sencible that this vexatious Petition is Stirred & encouraged by Holles purely to prevent Justice to their Western Inhabitants which they foresee will Obtain unless they can Cloack it by Ruining Dunstable.

The Reasons as to Distance & accommodation might much Stronger be urged—Exclusive of the province tax, in favor of the South part of the town.

That the familys in Dunstable able to Support themselves & bear any part of Our charge does not Exceed Forty, the Petitioners Included & shou'd they be Indulged it must end in their disappointment & be fatal to us.

As to their treatment in the town Setling the meeting house Useing the money &c we wou'd not trouble you With the Arguments Just in Our favour—Only Refer to the votes we here annex. Demonstrations of their good usage.

Had not the Depth of Snow and bad weather prevented we had shown their fallacious pretences to their distance from each meeting house all the aforegoing facts are Ready to veryfie

What Genius had Given them front to mutter out this Mottley Petition is Difficult to Guess.

The pretentions both of Holles & the Pet^{rs} are totally Groundless.

Wherefore we pray that their Petition may be Dismissed

JOSEPH BLANCHARD
ZACHEUS LOVEWELL
JOSEPH FRENCH.
} Ag^{ts} for Dunstable

[Here follows a plan of the land petitioned to be annexed to Hollis, about 2500 acres—which is omitted. ED.]

Province of New Hamp } To John Searles One of the Constables of Dunstable In said Province Greeting.

Seal In his Majestys Name you are hereby Required forthwith To Notify & Warn all the freeholders & Other Inhabitants In said Dunstable Qualified to Vote in the following Town affairs that they Assemble & Meet at the meeting house in Said Dunstable on Monday the 21st Day of March next at one of the clock afternoon.

1st To Chuse all Town Officers for the Ensuing Year Required by Law.

2^{d} To hear the Town accounts & Do anything Relating the Same as Shall then be agreed on.

3dly To See if the Town Will Do any thing to Shew Cause why the Petition of William Cumings & Others should not be Granted who have Petitioned the General Court to be annexed to Holles & Do any thing Relating the Same as shall then be agreed on

4^{thly} To see if the Town Will Do any thing to Prevent the Common Being Over Stocked & act as shall then be agreed on & see that you make Due Return hereof & fail not at your Peril.

Dated at Dunstable February 28th 2757

JOSEPH BLANCHARD
JON^{a} LOVEWELL
JON^{a} LUND
} Selectmen

Province of New Hamp }

Pursuant To the Within Warrant I have Notifyed & Warned all the freeholders & Other Inhabitants Qualified to Vote In the within Town affairs to meet at the Time & Place & for the Occasions as are Within mentioned.

Dunstable March ye 21st 1757

his
John ⋈ Searles Constable
mark

Dunstable April ye 2^{d} 1757

A true Copy taken from Dunstable town Book pr

Jonathan Lund, Town Clerk

At a Town Meeting of the freeholders & Other Inhabitants In Dunstable Qualified to Vote In Town affairs assembled at the meeting house In Dunstable On Monday the 21st Day of Septr 1757

Extract of the Votes

The Question Was Put if the Town of Dunstable Wou'd set off the Inhabitants & Land as Petitioned for by William Cumings & Others to be annexed to Holles or any Part thereof & Voted In the Negative

then Voted that Joseph Blanchard & Zacheus Lovewell Esqrs. & Capt Joseph French be agents In the Behalf of the Town of Dunstable Joyntly or Severally or any two of them to Shew Cause Why the Prayer of the aforesaid Petition shou'd not be Granted

A True Copy pr. Jonathan Lund town clerk

Dunstable April 2^{d} 1757

A True Copy Taken from Dunstable Town Book pr

Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

Choice of agents March 21st 1757

At a meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable Regularly assembled at the house of Thomas Harwood In Dunstable the 5th Day of March 1754

Extracts of the Votes

Voted that all the Inhabitants on the Place Called One Pine Hill viz: those to the West of Sampson Frenches & John Butterfield making a strait Line be excused from all charges In fitting Raising & finishing the old meeting house.

Dunstable april ye 2^{d} 1757

A true Copy taken from Dunstable town Book

Pr. Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable held at the house of Mr Jonathan French On the 24th Day of July 1749 Lawfully Warned for the following Purposes

Extract of the Votes

Also voted To hire a School for Eight months & that three months part thereof be Improved the North side Nashua River In two places. One the Most Convenient place at One pine Hill & that two months be Kept In the middle of the Inhabitants Between Nashua River & the Province Line & that the Other three months be kept the One half at the South End & One half at the North End to be Determined by the Committee to be Chosen the Most Convenient Places for that Purpose

Dunstable April ye 2^{d} 1757

A true Coppy taken from Dunstable town Book.

Pr Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

N. B. Y^{e} Petitioners Live at a place called One pine hill

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable Assembled on Wednesday the 30th Day of April 1746

Extract of the Votes of said meeting

Also Voted that the Inhabitants that by the Charter Was Incorporated With this Town of Dunstable Who Was by any Other Act or Law While Under the Jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Government Incorporated With any Other Town or Parish & have Continued to Pay Rates to the Respective Ministers of those Places be & hereby are Voted and Excused from the Tax or Rates Due to Mr Swan to Compleat his Salary Down to the Last Day of March Last

Dunstable April ye 2^d 1757
A true Coppy taken from Dunstable town Books
Pr. Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable assembled according to Law on Monday the Second Day of March 1746–7

Extract of the Votes of Said Meeting.

Whereas it has been proposed by the Inhabitants of this Town of Dunstable at Several Town Meetings to agree upon a Place Where to Erect a Meeting house for the Public Worship of God In this Town & no place being agreed upon & it Being Necessary that a place Should be fixed or agreed upon for Said Use & to Prevent the Charge of a Courts Committee in Settling the Same & that the Same May be Don Just & Equal it is Proposed that a Committee of three Judicious men hereafter to be Named be chosen (Belonging to some Other Town or Towns) & that they be fully Impowered to meet & agree upon or fix a Certain place for Erecting a Meeting house In this Town of Dunstable & that they View the Land in Settling the Same & that the Said Committee or the Maj^r Part of them Certify to the Clerk of this Town (In Writing by them Signed) the Place they Shall agree upon or fix for Said use & that In their Judgment it is a place that is Just & Equal & Will Best acomodate the Inhabitants of this Town of Dunstable & the Clerk is hereby Ordered to Record the Same Which Being Done shall be & Remain the Place for Building a Meeting house In this Town for the use aforesaid if the Land Can be had for the Same & that the Select men Desire Said Committee to Meet In this Town & agree upon a Place as aforesaid upon the Cost & Charge of this Town—

Voted In the affirmative
Dunstable April ye 2^d 1757
A true Coppy taken from Dunstable town Book
Pr. Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

Province of New Hampshire

We the Subscribers Being Chosen a Committee By the Town of Dunstable In said Province at their Meeting the 2^d Day of March 1746–7 to fix & agree upon a place to Erect a house for the Public Worship of God In Said Dunstable according to the Directions in said Vote given us having Viewed the Land & hearing all Parties fully thereon So far as they See Cause have fixed & agreed That the Place for Build^g the said house on be & hereby is stated (as In our Judgments most Just & Reasonable to be all Circumstances Considered) By the high Way on the Easterly Side thereof about four Rods from said Way at a small Pine Marked against Mr Samuel Whitings New field (so called) Near the Place Where the Road Comes from Phineas Lunds.

as Witness our hands this 23^d Day of May 1747

Joseph Fitch
John Chamberlain
Robert Fletcher

A true Copy Attes

Jon^a Lovewell Town Clerk

Dunstable April ye 2^d 1757 A true Coppy taken from Dunstable town Book pr. Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

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At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable In the Province of New Hamp^r Being Regularly Assembled at the house of Mr Thomas Harwood the 21st Day of December 1753

Then Voted the Place Whereon to set up a house for Public Worship

on Lords Day be at the Crotch of the Roads as Near as Can be With Convenience (Near the house where Jon Lovewell Now Dwells) Voted that the old Meeting house be Took Down Moved & Set up on the Place this night Voted for that Purpose & that the Same be forthwith Done & that the Honble Joseph Blanchard Esqr Zacheus Lovewell Thomas Harwood Joseph French John Butterfield Jonathan Lund Ephraim Adams Jon^a Lovewell & amasa Parker be a Committee to Effect the Same & that the Necessary Charges be paid by this Town

Dunstable April ye 2^d yr 1757

a true Cop^a taken from Dunstable town Book

Pr· Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

Then Voted that Joseph Fitch of Bedford Capt. William Laurance Esqr of Groton & Capt. John Chamberlain of Souhegan East be the Committee to settle the Meeting house Place as afores^d & that they make Report Within three Months

Voted that Capt. Robt Fletcher be Chosen to Serve In the afores^d Com^tee in Case Either fail

Dunstable April 2^d 1757

A Copy Taken from Dunstable Town Book

[Here follows a plan of Pine Hill on the west part of Dunstable, which is omitted. ED.]

DURHAM.

[This town was originally part of Dover, and long had the name of Oyster-River. It was incorporated during the administration of Gov. Belcher, 15 May, 1732. ED.]

Petition for Incorporation as a Town.

To the Honble John Usher Esqr Lev^t Govern^r Comand^r in Chief of his Majes^ts Province of New Hampshire and to the Honble the Councill.

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of Oyster River Humbly Petition and Pray

That whereas, his Moste Sacred Majesty King William has been pleased through his grace and favor to grant unto yor Hon^r by his Royall Commission with ye Councill full Powers and authorities to Erect and Establish Towns within his Majesties Province and whereas now y^r Petitioners have by divine providence settled and Inhabited that Part in this his Majes^ts Province Comonly Called Oyster River and have found that by the scituation of the place as to Distance from Dover or Exeter butt more Especially Dover now being forced to wander through the Woods to y^t place to meet to and for ye management of our affairès are much Disadvantaged for ye Present in our Business and Estates and hindered of adding a Town and People for the Hon^r of his Majesty in the Inlargement and In-

creas of his Province Wee humbly Supplicate that yor Hon^{rs} would take itt to yor Consideration and grant that we may have a Township confirmed by your honours which we humbly offer the bound Thereof may Extend as followeth. To begin at the head of Rialls his cove and so to run upon a North west line seven Miles and from thence with Dover line Parrelell untill we meet with Exeter line that yor Hon^{r} would be pleased to Grant this Petition which will not only be a great benefitt Both to the Settlement of our Ministry The Population of the place the Ease of the Subject and the strengthening and advantaging of his majest^{s} Province butt an Engagement for yor Petitioners Ever to pray for the Safety & Increase of yor Hon^{rs} and Prosperity

John Smith
Joseph Jones
James x Bunker Sen.
John Williams
Thomas Williams
William Willyoums
Henery Vines ?
Nathaniell Meder
John Meder Sener
John Meder Jn
William Faster x his mark
James x his mark
Philep Dudy. x his mark
Demeret x his mark
Joseph Jengens x his mark
James Bonker x his mark
James ——— ?
——— ——— ?
Joseph Meder
Joseph Smith
Edward Wakeham
Thomas Wille
Thomas Chesley
Philip Chesley sen
Francis Pittman
Thomas Chesley Jr.
George Chesley
William Jackson
Joseph Bunker
John Woodman
Stephen Jones
——— ? Davis x mark
Samson Doe
John Doe
Jeremiah Cromen
James x Durgin mark
Willioum x Durginn ma:
Elias Critchett
Phillup Cromel – mark
John Cromel
Jeremiah Burnnum
John Smith
Thomas Bickford
John Meder
Francis Mathes
Henry Nock
John Willy x mark
Thomas Edgerly
John Edgerly
Edward x Lethers his mark
Henry Mash
William x Durgin his mark

Ecclesiastical document relating to Durham, 1723.

Rev^{end} Hon. & beloved.

understanding Col. Davis & his wife are ab^{t} to Joyn in full com^{n} wth yor church this is y^{n} by virtue of ye communion of churches to enter my objection agst y^{m} for scandalous crimes untill their publick confession & reformation

1st crime agst him is his hipocrisy in pretending he could not wth our church on acc^{tt} of Capt. Jones who (as he said) had taken a false oath ab^{t} Capt. Hills land at ye falls wth Jos

meader also when he Considered not the beam in his own eye relating to another oath he himself took concerning Wheelwrights pond

2[d] crime is his Sacrilegious fraud in his being The ring leader of the point peoples first rase of my first years sallary retaining 16 pound thereof now almost sixteen years

3[d] crime is his Sacrilegious covetousness of the parsonage land for his son Daniel acting thereby like Ahab coveting & forceable entry upon Naboths Vineyard

4th his late wresting the Law of this Province in his partial Spite ag[st] his own legal minister for so innocently playing at nine pins at a house no ways license for a Tavern & also for reproaching & defaming s[d] minister as being in drink or disguised there[wth] besides his the s[d] Jas. Davis being so desperately & notoriously wise in his own conceit his pretending to have so much religious discourse in his mouth & yet live so long (40 years) in hatred unto contempt of & stand neuter from our crucified Saviour & his honouring his sons & his wife also above the Lord of Heaven by his hearkeing to them more & rather than to him 1 sam[l] 2 : 29

in the second place ag[n] her the s[d] Elizabeth his wife.

1st crime is her railing ag[st] the s[d] minister publickly at the church meeting in the meeting house by saying that the s[d] minister told a lie in the pulpit ab[t] Sobriety Thomas &c

2 crime is her profane mockery at christ's ordinance of a church meeting for discipline by her saying in a way of derision theres going to be another caball now i e a horse raceing from caballas the starey constellation or else a secret council for some mystery of iniquity

3[d] crime is her being disorderly as a busy body at every one of her husbands Courts to be his advisor or intermedler in his passing judg[mt] in any case as if he sh[d] regard her more than his oath the Law or evidence if these criminals will have these crimes to be proved at any church meeting to hear the Same w[ch] y[r] reverend pastor Mr. Jona Cushing may please to appoint. Then as the Hon[bl e] Col. Richard Waldron Esq. is one of the members of yo[r] Church in full comunion & a chief Justice of peace for the Province as a Subject I desire but as an ambassad[r] for Christ I demand of his Hon[r] aforesaid a blank sumons & notification seasonably as a complain[t] to sumons evidence for the confirmation of y[e] premises as witnesses [two Hebrew words] (1) Pastor.

the woman's 4th crime is her so evidently insnaring her son Thomas into so many denials of any such concern[t] wth Sobriety Thomas in all that Scandalous business. For which *cum multis aliis* &c as baptized Children of the covenant by their

(1) This was undoubtedly written by Rev. Hugh Adams, of Durham. See Prov. Pap. Vol. IV. and V., "Adams." Ed.

propr minister they are both of ym laid under ye Censure of his pastoral rejection as unbaptized heathen man & woman as Warranted by the law of christ in Titus 3 : 10 1 Timo 1 : 20 Titus 2 : 15 Math 16 : 19 Mal 2 : 7 1 Saml 15 : 23 Math 3 : 10. Acts 8 : 13 : 21 : 23 untill thir publick Confession & amendmt of life —concerning whom therefore I must suppose in charity for yor church by the receiving such among you wd not dare to transgresse these written orders in the Apostolick Law of Christ 1 Cor. 5 : 11 & Sundry other Scriptures.

Petition of sundry aggrieved inhabitants of Oyster River.

To the Honorable John Wintworth Esqre Lieut Govenor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majtes Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honorable his Majstes Counciel and Representatives for said province.

The Humble Petition of Sundry aggreved Inhabitance of the parish of Oyster River Most humbly Sheweth Whereas we the Subscribers In Habitance of said parish Have allways been Constant hearers and Paid our Rats to the Minister of said Parish as by the Rait List of assessment Will make appear and Likewise Sundry of us have Been at a Consederabel Charge in Bulding a Meating House in said parish it being Nier and more Convenent for us to attend upon the Publick Worship of God at Oyster River Meeting House then at Cochecho Meeting House which is a great way further for us to go tho Never the Less as we understand we are in Danger of Being Excluded from our said Priviledges by such an Unequal Line of Boundary between the parish of Oyster River and Cochecho which if being so stated will be Greatly to the Damagé of yor Petitionors.

We do therefore Humbly Crave Liberty of the More Mature and Superior Judgment of your honours in the General Assembly praying yor honours to take it in Consideration that there may be a more Equael Line of Bound'ry Set so that yor aggrieved petitionars may not be under such Grat hard ships, and yor petitioners shall ever pray,

Joseph Jones in behalf of the Rest whose names are to be given in

Joseph Daniel
William Broun
James Jackson
Thomas Lethers
John Tasker
Samuel Chasley
Joshua Chasley
Zachrah Edgeley
William Glines
Samuel Daves
Joseph Hiks
James Busell
Morres Fouller
John Busell

Joseph Parkins
Thomas Bickford
Ralph Horll
Samuall Parkins
Joseph Jones Junr
Benj. Jones
John Jones
John Rand
John Remiss
Timothy Moses
Thomas ———?
Samuel Chesle
John Allan
Dec. 10, 1729.

Eli Demerett
William Demerett
John Demerett
John Huckins
Job Demerett
Derry Pitman
Thomas Willey Jun.
Joseph Daniel the third
Noel Crose
John Daniel
Benjamin Evens
Harvey Buswell
William Buswell

Petition of Francis Mathes and others for a new parish in Durham.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr Governor and Commander In Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England, the Honble His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said Province In General Court Convened Jany. 31st 1739

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town of Durham in Said Province Humbly Shews,

That the Inhabitants of the Said Town are divided Into two parties Respecting their Ecclesiastical affairs, the One such as adhere to the Reverend Mr Hugh Adams the late Minister of the Said Town & who Continues so to the said party, the other (who are much the Greater) are such as have Oppos'd his Standing in that Relation to them, & still Continue so to do. That notwithstanding it was the opinion & Result of the late Ecclesiastical Council held there that it would not be Expedient for him to be any Longer the Minister of the said Town yet considering his former Services his advanced years and the unhappy Circumstances of himself & Family they Earnestly Recommended and press'd it upon the said Inhabitants that they should Liberally make Provision for his Support during the Stay of himself & Family among them—which is what would be highly agreeable to your Petitioners

That altho Several propositions have been made touching that matter yet nothing has been agreed on nor any care taken to Secure the performance thereof in the manner Recommended as aforesaid.

That your Petitioners apprehend it would be a great Indecency if he who was once & so long the Minister of the said Town should have no other provision made for his Support than what the Law Provides for one of the poor of the Town

and that he should be Reduced to a Necessity of Depending upon such a Subsistence

That your Petitioners are desirous Still to Sit under his Ministry and are willing to support him & his Family Suitable to his character & Station among them, and conceive that his being Comfortably Supported would have a good Tendency & be the Means of making peace in the Town (respecting Ecclesiastical matters) and would keep all parties quiet & Easy. But your Petitioners however willing are not of ability to afford such Support while they are Subject to & pay towards the Maintenance of another Minister, in the Town.

Wherefore they most Humbly pray that they with Such others of the Said Town as will associate with them (not Exceeding the one half) may be Exempted from paying toward the Support of any other Minister & May be discharged from all charges of that nature laid on them by Law by their Opponents from the time of the aforesaid Result and may be Incorporated as a Parish during the Life of the Said Mr Adams in order to Maintain him & his Family & to Enjoy the Benefit of his Ministry.

Or that the Town in General may be Obliged to afford him a Comfortable Subsistence during his abode there Or that Such other Method may be pursu'd as this Hon$^{bl\,e}$ Court in their Great Wisdom & goodness Shall think proper for the peace of the Town & the Ease of that aged Gentleman—and your petitioners as In duty bound Shall ever pray &c.

Francis Mathes	Towerthey Durgain
Thomas Footman	Joshua Durgain
Thomas Drew	Hazekiah Marsh
Joseph Wheeler	Joseph Duda
William Lord	Joseph Duda Jun.
John Edgerly	Benmor Dnda
Stevephen Wille	John Cromut
Joseph Stevenson	Phillip Cromut
John Footman	David Davis
Joseph Footman	Jacob Tash
Benjamin Pender	Isacc Mason
John Durgen	Nathanael Watson
Benjamin Durgen	Nathaniel Frost
Benjamin Pinder Junr.	John Smart
Frances Durgen	John Mason
Joseph Drew	Benjamin Burdet
John Kant	Pumfret Whitehouse
Moses Edgerly	Vallitin Hill
John Kant Junr.	Sam^{ll} Adams
John Drewe	Saml Willey
Benjamin Benet	Joseph Bickford
James Durgain Jun.	Abraham Banneck
William Durgain	Benjamin Banneck
James Durgain	Jonathan Durgain
Willm Durgain Jun.	William Wormwood
Joseph Durgain	Joseph Edgerly

Thomas Bickford
Abraham Stevnson
John Bickford
William Accason
Joseph Edgly

February the 15th 1739–40. In the house of Representatives.
The within Petition read and Voted the Petition be dismissed.
James Jeffry Cler. Assm

In Counl feb 21st 1739–40
Read and the Question put whether the Council Concurr'd with the representatives vote.
four voted yea & four nay wch were all that were present.
R. Waldron Secy

Durham July ye 24th 1740
A list of Names of all the Soldiery that Is under my Comand from Sixteen years old and upward as the Law Directs.
John Smith Junr Captn

Sargt Thomas Stevenson
Sarg Samuel Willey
Sarg John Crummet
Sarg John Edgerly
Cor. Joseph Wormwood
Cor Joseph Davis
Cor. Joseph Edgerly
Cor. John Durgain
John Footman
Joseph Footman
Samuel Smith
Benja. Smith
Joseph Chasly
Ebenezer Smith
Benja Pender
Francis Durgain
Eliphalet Daniel
Reuben Daniel
John Kent
John Kent Jun.
Abraham Mathews
John Drew
Elijah Drew
Tho Bickford
Robert Kent
Tho. Langley
William Lord
Stephen Willey
Benja Mathews
Nolintin Mathews
Abraham Mathews Jun
Joseph Stevenson
Abraham Stevenson
Caleb Wakham
Francis Footman
Daniel Davis
Tho Footman Jun.
John Genikins
Benja Genikins
Robert Burnham Jun.
John Burnham Jun.
Richard Dunmore
Benja Davis
Jabez Davis
Jeremiah Davis
Solomon Davis
Ebenezer Davis
Samuel Meeder
James Burnham
Ichbod Denmore
Joseph Bickford
John Langly
Jobe Langley
Hezekiah Marsh
Willm Willey
John Mason
Daniel Doo
John Doo
Joseph Doo
Benja Doo
Willm Wormwood Jun.
Willm Jncks
Joshua Crumet
Abraham Bennet Jun.
James Durgain Jun.
Willm Durgain
Phillip Crommet
Benja Bennet
Isac Mason
David Davis
Samuel Joy
Joshua Davis
Joseph Dudy
Joseph Dudy Jun.
Benmore Dudy
Tho Willey
Theodor Willey
James Smith

Joseph Smith	Joshua Woodman
Tho Yorke	John Cretchet
Samuel Watson	John Willey
Joseph Gleden	James Burnham Jun

A true Coppy of the List Rool taken ye Last Training Day and Coppyed out July ye 29th 1740 Total 86

Joseph Drew Clerk

Daniel Meader's Petition, Feb. 11, 1745.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Govenor & Commander In Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Honble His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened the 11th Day of Feby 1744–5

The Humble Petition of Daniel Meader of Durham in the Province of New Hampshire in behalf of himself & the People called Quakers Inhabitants of Durham afores^d^ Shews

That your Petition^r^ was Chosen Constable of the Said Town at their annual Meeting in March 1743 for that year & at the same time One Isaac Clarke was chosen a Constable or Collector of the Minister Rate thereby Intending to Exonerate the Constable of the Town (properly so called) from that service.

That since that Choice Mr Hugh Adams has Recovered a Judgment ag^st^ ye s^d^ Town at the Court of Appeals for a considerable sum of Money wch the Town was obliged to Raise, a Meeting was called & a vote was past for Raising a sum of Money but Expres'd in a Covert disguised manner purposely concealing the use & design to which it was to be applied with an Intent as your Petitioner Conceives both to oblige him to Collect it & the Quakers to pay a part of it who are Exempted by law from paying any part of money Raised to the use for w^ch^ *this* was Really designed—And pursuant hereto a list of Rates was made wherein all Denominations were taxed towards the sum voted as aforesaid & artifice & contrivance used to get it into the hands of your Petitioner & to oblige him to Collect the money.

That as the Laws of the Province do not oblige any man or men to pay towards the Support of any way of Worship but that which he or they attend much less will they Compel any man to Collect money for the Support of that mode of worship from which he dissents and the money adjudged to Mr Adams aforesaid & which has been Collected (with other money) and since paid to him Comes within the meaning of the Province Laws granting Liberty of Conscience & other Privileges respecting Religious worship as any sum to be raised for any ministers yearly Salary.

Wherefore y^r^ Petition^r^ Humbly prays that as the Quakers have not yet paid the part of said Rates which they were assessed they may be Exempted & discharged from paying the same and he Exonerated from the burthen of making such Collection And farther as your Petioner conceives the Collecting any part of Said Rates was an unjust Imposition on him he Prays that he may be paid by the Said Town a Quantum Meruit for that Service and he will as in Duty bound Ever pray &c

DANIEL MEDER.

Petition of Joseph Thomas and other inhabitants of Durham.

To the Hon^bl^e the House of Representatives for the Province of New Hampshire in General Assembly Convened Novr 1755.

Humbly Shows. Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town of Durham in Said Province That they apprehend themselves aggrieved By the Return made by two of the Select men of Said Town of the Person said to be Chosen to Represent the Said Town in the Last Election for That they Conceive upon a fair Examination of the Facts Relative thereto, it will be found That Joseph Thomas their Late Representative was really the Person Legally chosen & Ought to have been so Returned.

That the true State of the Case is thus, upon Reading & Counting the Written Votes put in it appeared that Lieut Stephen Jones had one more Vote than Said Thomas upon which there appeared a Sufficient Number (who being Doubtful whether it could be so upon a fair Examination) Desired a Poll to Put the matter beyond Dispute which was accordingly Granted the Event of which was that there were thirty nine Polls in favour of said Thomas & thirty two Polls in favour of said Jones—whereupon the Moderator Declared the said Thomas the Person Elected & Directed the Clerk to make the Entry accordingly—Yet so it is that the said Jones is Returned as the Person Elected & said to be Notified to attend accordingly all which upon an Impartial Inquiry will Turn out as your Petition^rs^ apprehend to be a Misrepresentation & a bold Infringement upon the Rights & Libertys of the Electors & worthy of Inquiry & Exami^n^ wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray the Premises may be taken under Consideration by this Hon^bl^e House & Such a Resolution form'd thereupon as shall be found upon Examina^n^ to be agreeable to the Truth of the Different

facts & allegations Produced & made by the Different Parties Concern'd and your Petition[rs] Shall Pray &c.

Jos Thomas
Eliphalet Daniel
Jonathan Durgain
Benj Jenkins

Petition for a highway.

Province of
New Hamp.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General and Governour in chief in and over his Majest[s] Province of New Hampshire & To the Honourable his Majesty[s] Councill & House of Representatives in General Court Convened This Eleventh Day of February A. D. 1768

The Petition of us the Subscribers being Inhabitants and Freeholders of Durham, Newmarket and Towns adjacent Most Humbly Sheweth That at his Majesty's Court of General Sessions of the peace begun & held at Portsmouth within and for the said Province of New Hampshire on the first Tuesday of September last, Your Petitioners humbly Petitioned said Court of Sessions for a "High way of two Rods wide to be laid out from the Bridge at Lamprele River To the Road leading from Durham Point to Durham Falls in The following manner viz. beginning at the County Road at said Lamprele River near Joseph Hams Dwelling House & to Run as the Path now Runs through lands of Walter Bryant Esq[r] and Abraham Bennett To lands of Samuel Smith at the Gate at the Head of said Smiths Pasture from thence running between said Smith & Bennitts Land to the afores[d] path at the Head of said Smiths lane and Down said Smiths Lane To the End thereof. Thence running between said Smith & Bennitts land & Through Said Smiths land as The path now goes To Lands of Joseph Chesle Thence Through the Several Lands of Said Chesley The heirs of Ebenezer Smith Esq[r] Deceased and John Smith to lands of Thomas Stevenson & through said Stevensons land between his House & Barn To lands of Joseph Footman & through said Footmans Land to lands of Dependance Bickford & John Durgin and through said Bickford & Durgins land To & through Lands belonging To the said Heirs of Ebenezer Smith To Mathes[s] Creek (so called) near the Mill and over the said Creek between lands of the Honourable Peter Levius Esq[r] and John Kent To Lands in possession of John & Joseph Drew Thence running between said Levius & Drews Land To a Road Leading from Durham Point to Lamprele River"—and

at the Court of General Sessions holden at said Portsmouth in December last The Petitioners prayed for a Committee To view the Several Lands Through which said Road was Intended to be laid out and To Report To the said Court of Sessions Thereon but the Court refused To send a Committee or to grant the prayer of the said Petitioner and accordingly the Petition was Dismissed by means whereof your Petitioners are much aggrieved as the said Way if laid out would much Commode your Petitioners as well as his Majestys Subjects in general. Wherefore your said Petitioners Most humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours would Take The matter under your Consideration & Cause the said place to be viewed & if the said way should appear to be necessary & Convenient Then To order the Said Way to be laid out and opened in such way & manner as your Excellency and Honours shall in your great wisdom Think fit and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever pray

Feb. 11th 1768.

David Davis
Moses Edgerly Jr.
Truworthy Durgin Jun
Stephen Wille Jun
Nath[l] Norton
George Bickford
Volentine Mathes
John Mead
Ede Hall Bergin
Zebulon Doe Jun.
Jonathan Doe
Edward Smith
Bradstreet Doe
James Cram
Tho[s] Stevenson
Joseph Drew
John Drew
Joseph Wormwood Jr.
Dep. Bickford
Francis Mathes
John Edgerly
John Smith
George Tuttel
Tim[o] Murray
John Mundro

Province of New Hamp. } In the House of Representatives Feb 18th 1768
The within Petition being Read

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition the third Day of the Siting of the General Assembly next after the tenth Day of March next and that they at their own Cost Serve the Selectmen of Durham with a Copy of this Petition and Order of Court that they May Shew Cause why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted

M. Weare Clr.

In Council Feb[y] 19th 1768
Read & concurr'd

Geo. King Dep. Sec[y]

Province of New Hamp. } In the House of Representatives March 15th 1768
The Parties being heard on this Petition and the matter Considered—

Voted That Andrew Wiggin Esq[r] Capt. Eliphelet Merrill and Capt. Ezekiel Worthen be a Committee to View the Road Petitioned for to hear what any Persons Concern'd may offer and make Report to the General Assembly as soon as may be. The Cost of the Committee to be Paid by the Petitioners

M. Weare Cl[r]

Province of New Hamp. } At a Town meeting of the Free holders & other Inhabitants of Durham held at the Meeting House in s[d] Durham on Monday the 7th day of March 1768 at 3 o'clock P. M.

Voted that Capt. Thomas Chesley shall be an agent in behalf of the Town to answer to a Petition signed by Thomas Stevenson & others, Directed to the Governor, Council and representatives of s[d] Province requesting a High Way To be laid out from the Bridge at Lampereel River To the Road leading from Durham Point to Durham Falls. And to shew cause why the Prayer of s[d] Petition should not be granted.

A True Copy— Attest John Smith S. Cler pro tempore

EPPING.

[Epping was incorporated 12 February, 1741. Ed.]

Petition of the Inhabitants of Epping for men to protect them.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Hon[le] His Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened

Humbly Sheweth the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Epping in s[d] Province that your Petitioners are Sensible of the weak and Defenceless State of the Town of Nottingham which Lies on our Border—That the Inhabitants there Seem very much Discouraged Insomuch that Some are Removed and others are about Removing out of Town. That if that Settlement should Break up this Parish with Part of New Market and Durham will become Frontiers which we of ourselves Shall not we fear be able to Defend and the Enemy who will be much Incouraged will have near access to the very Bowells of the Province which may Possibly have very Fatal Consequences.

We Do therefore by these Presents Humbly Request your Excellency and Honours to take the Premises with other Reasons that may occur into your wise Consideration and if it appear Proper make Provision for and send to said Town of Nottingham to be Kept there for their Safeguard and Defence—Such a number of Men as may be needfull for that Purpose and as that Town is very much Exposed we Humbly Presume that a much Larger number will be necessary for that End than has been allowed them in years Past, and as the Common Road between Red Oak Hill so called and Nottingham is very Dan-

gerous to Pass we Would Request that a Small Scout of Men May be sent to the named Gareson on Pantuckaway road to scout from thence to Sanborns Garrison when not wanted for that to Guard the People at s^{d} Garrisons May it Pleas Your Excellency and Honours it appears to us that our Safety in a Great Measure Depends upon the Safety of Nottingham which we Hope you will Effectually Provide for and we shall Esteem it as an Instance of your Paternal Care not only of Nottingham but of your Petitioners also who as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c.

Edward Stevens	James Whidden
Jonathan Foulsom	Joseph Emery
Benjamin Rawlings	Joseph Cass
David Page	Ezekiel Brown
Richard Samborn	Abraham Folsom
Nathan Samborn	Jonathan Smith
Jonathan Keesey	Jonathan Rundlet
Joseph Goodhue	Eleazer Elkins
Onisipherous Page	Jeremiah Elkins
Joseph Edgerly	Is'rel Blak
John Elkins	Joseph Blak
Daniel Elkins	Jediah Blake
Samuel Elkins	Jeremiah Prescot
Robert Hinkson	John Prescut
John Hinkson	William Eaton
John Dudley	Jonathan Gliden
Moses Hoyt	Joseph Noris
James Chase	Moses Noris
Jacob Freese	John Noris
Elias Smith	John Manten
Jeremiah Prescut	Daniel Manten
William Prescut	Ebenezer Manten
Abraham Brown	Caleb Gillman
John Rowell	Israel Gillman
John Page	John Morison

Epping March 5th 1747

In Council March 8th 1747
read & ordered to be sent down to ye Honble House
Theo^{d} Atkinson Sec^{y}

EPSOM.

[This town was incorporated 18 May, 1727. Ed.]

An Act to invest Proprietors of Epsom, with town rights, &c.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Secundi Magnæ Britanniæ Franciæ & Hiberniæ Decimo Septimo.

An Act to Invest the Proprietors of the Township of Epsome with

the Powers & Privileges of any other Proprietors of Townships in this Province.

Whereas the said Proprietors have Represented that they were not Enabled to proceed in the Settlement of their Township so Effectually as they might do for want of sufficient powers and authorities of Law to Enforce & Expedite the payment of such Sums of Money as should be agreed & voted by the said Proprietors to be Raised for the promoting & Carrying on the Settlement aforesaid—And as the making such Settlements are of General Benefit to the Province as well as for the Interest of the Particular Proprietors

Be it therefore Enacted by His Excellency Govern[r] Council & Representatives in General Assembly Convened & by the authority of the same That the said Proprietors of the Said Township of Epsome shall be & hereby are Invested with all the Powers Authorities & Privileges given by Law to the Proprietors of any Town ship within this Province Respecting the voting Assessing Raising & Collecting or Levying any Sum or Sums of Money that have been or shall be agreed upon & voted by the Majority of the said Proprietors at any Legal meeting for defraying the charge of the Gospel Ministry in the s[d] Township and for the future may Lawfully use & Exercise the same Powers, Authorities & privileges in all other respects as occasion shall serve as fully & amply to all Intents & purposes whatsoever as the Proprietors of any Township in this Province & in the same manner as if the same had been herein particularly mentioned and in Like manner may proceed to call or notify any future meeting of the said Proprietors & to order Govern & manage their proceedings & affairs at such meeting This act to Continue & be in force for the Space of five Years & no Longer.

In the House of Representatives apr 18th 1744.

The above Bill Read three times & past to be Enacted

And[r] Wiggin Speaker

Petition of John Weeks.

Province of
New Hamp

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honorable His Majestys Councill and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened the Third day of March 1761

The Petition of John Weeks of Hampton in Province of New Hampshire Esq[r] in behalf of and as agent for the Proprietors of Epsom in said Province Most humbly sheweth That a Considerable part of the land in Said Epsome is owned by Non Residents. That there is no law in this Province whereby Proprietors of Common and undivided lands can raise Money by Taxes and Cause the same to be Collected. That the Inhabitants of said Epsom are unable to build a meeting house for the Public Worship of God or to support a Minister of the Gospel among them That the Proprietors of Epsom aforesaid at a meeting of said Proprietors held at Epsom aforesaid by

adjournment on the tenth day of September 1760 voted that the Proprietors of land in said Epsom Should pay two Shillings old Tenor per acre for every acre of land which then was laid out in Severalty in Said Town To be paid within one year from the said Tenth day of September afores[d] Partly to pay for the perambulating the Several lines of said Town and for laying out the undivided lands in said Town and the Remainder to be applied towards building a meeting house and maintaining a Minister in said Epsom—Also That the Proprietors aforesaid should pay one Shilling old Tenor per acre per year for five years next after the said one year should be expired, to be applied towards the building a meeting house and maintaining a Minister in s[d] Epsom and at the same meeting voted your Petitioner agent for said Proprietors to prefer a Petition to the General Assembly for a Confirmation of said Vote:

Wherefore your Petitioners in the Capacity afores[d] prays your Excellency and Honours by an act to Ratify and Confirm Said Vote And to Authorize & Impower the said Proprietors to tax all the lands laid out in Severalty in said Epsom on the said Tenth day of September afores[d] at two Shillings old Tenor per acre for one year for the use and purpose aforesd. And to enable the said Proprietors to Collect the Same also to tax for five years next after the said one year every acre of land that shall then be laid out in Severalty in said Town at one Shilling old Tenor per. acre each year for the use and purpose aforsaid and to enable the said Proprietors to Collect the Same.

JOHN WEEKS Agent

In Council March 3[d] 1761
read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon[ble] Assembly.
Theod Atkinson Secy

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Epsom for abating the Province Tax.

Province of
New Hamp

To his Exelency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Cap[t] General Governour & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the Honable Counceill & house of Representatives now Convened in General Assembly at Portsmouth

the Petition of his Majestys Good Subjects Inhabitants of the township of Epsom in Said Province Humbly Sheweth

We the Poor Inhabitants of the township of Epsom in Said Province humbly Beg Leave to Remonstrate our Very Poor Distressing Curcumstances to your Compassion & Most Earn-

estly Crave your Pity and pray your Honours to Relieve us from the unsuportable Burden of Province tax under which we are made to Grone and Which we think we Cannot Possibly Survive under unless your Honours Will be Pleased to Mitigate and free us from. Gentlemen our Numbers are Very small & we are very much Exposed to Losses our young Cattle Sheep & Swine are often Destroyed by Wild beasts and further we have Lately Seteled a minister among us which we are affraid we Shall not be able to Support by Reason of the Poor Circumstances we are now under we are not able to Build a Meeting House but our Minister is obliged to Preach in Some of our Dwelling houses the tax which was Laid on us the Last year many of us were obliged to hire the money to Pay our Necessities are very Grate by Reason of the Scarcity of Provisions we have been obliged to Lay out all that we have got for years Past & are now much in Debt this is to Entreat your Honours to take of the heavy tax which we now Labour under & Restore us the money we Paid Last year & your Petitioners Shall Ever Pray as in Duty Bound

John McClary
George Walles
Nathan Marden
John Black
Ephraim Lock
Reuben Sanborn Jun.
Eliphalet Sanborn
Reuben Sanborn
James Wood
Abraham Lebbee
Abraham Walles
Benjamin Blake
Thomas Blake
Isaac Lebbee
Isaac Lebbee Jun.
Reuben Lebbee
Amos Blaso
Samuel Beckford
Samuel Black
Thomas Hins
John Blaso
Ephraim Bery
William Blake
Benson Ham
John McGaffey
Andrew McClery
Abner Evens

In Council June 24th 1762
Read & Order'd to be sent down to the Honble Assembly
Theodore Atkinson Jun. Secr

Province of }
New Hampshire }

Epsom May the 26, 1760

these are to notifie the propriters of the town of Epsom to meat at the house of Capt. Andrew McClarey in epsom on wensday the eightenth of June next at ten of the clock in the fore noon then and their to see if the proprietors will asist the inhabitance in bulding a meating house and asist the inhabitance about the hiring a minister or any other thing that may be thot proper for the benefit of sd town and to see if the propritors will devide the undevided Land in epsom and likewise see if they will preamblate the several lines in sd Epsom.

A true Copy atest by N Marden proprietors Clark

John McClary }
Thomas Blake } Selectmen

At a Legal meeting of the Proprietors of the town of Epsom held at the house of Capt Andrew McClary on wensday the 18 day of June 1760

1 voted Mr Isaac Lebbee to be moderator for the present meating.

2 voted that the meeting be adjorned untill the tenth day of September next at ten of the Clock Before noon to be held at the place afores^{d}

A true copy atest by

Nathan Marden proprietors Clark

September the 10, 1760

1 voted Nathan Marden be propritors Clark for the propriters of Epsom untill another be chosen.

2 voted that the proprietors pay two Shillings pr. Acre old tener for all and every acre of Land which is laid into Severelty in the town of Epsom within one year from this Date partly to pay for the perambelating the Lines of s^{d} Epsom & laying out the undevided Land and the remander to be applyd towards Building a meating house & mantaining a menester in s^{d} Epsom and also that the propriters pay one Shilling old tener pr. acre pr. year for five years next after the s^{d} one year is Expir'd to be applied towards building a meating house and maintaining a minister in s^{d} Epsom.

3 voted that John Weaks Esqr be an agent for the propriters of Epsom to prefer a petition to the general Court for a confirmation of s^{d} votes and also for an act to enable the s^{d} propriters to colect s^{d} sum.

4 voted that Capt. John McClary be a Committee to peramblate the Lines of Epsom & to Divide the Undevided Land in Epsom.

5 Voted that Nathan marden be a Committie man for the Same.

6 voted that Ephraim Lock be a Committie man for the Same

Isaac Lebbee Senr moderater

A true Copy atest by

Nathan Marden propriters Clark

We whose names are under writen Desir the select men of Epsom to insert the follong and Call a propriters meating Viz.

John Weeks, Bracket Johnson } Propriters

William Bery	William Blaso
Leve Dearborn	Isaac Lebbee Senr
John Lebbee	Geórg Walles
Ephraem Lock	Nathan Marden
John McClary	Benjamin Holt
Andrew McClary	Isaac Lebbee Junr.

EXETER.

[Exeter was purchased of certain Indian Sachems by Rev. John Wheelwright and others, 3 April, 1638. The purchase embraced thirty miles Square. Under this purchase, the settlement was made.]

Combination at Exeter, 1639.

[See and compare copy from Ancient Record of Exeter, Prov. Pap. Vol. I, pp. 131—133.]

Combination for government at Exeter, with the forms of oaths for rulers and people.

Whereas it hath pleased the Lord to move the heart of our dread Sovereign Charles by the grace of God King &c to grant license and liberty to sundry of his subjects to plant themselves in the western parts of America—We his loyal subjects, brethren of the church in Exeter, situate and lying upon the river Pascataquacke with other inhabitants there, considering with ourselves the holy will of God and our own necessity, that we should not live without wholesome laws and government among us, of which we are altogether destitute, do in the name of Christ and in the sight of God combine ourselves together to erect and set up amongst us such government as shall be to our best discerning agreeable to the will of God professing ourselves subjects to our Sovereign Lord King Charles, according to the liberties of our English colony of the Massachusetts, and binding ourselves solemnly by the grace and help of Christ, and in his name and fear, to submit ourselves to such godly and christian laws as are established in the realm of England to our best knowledge, and to all other such laws which shall upon good grounds be made and enacted amongst us according to God, that we may live quietly & peaceably together in all godliness and honesty.

Mo. 5 D. 4, 1639.

John Wheelwright
Augustine Storer
Thomas Wright
William Wentworth
Henry Elkins
George Walton
Samuel Walker
Thomas Petit
Henry Roby
William Winborne
Thomas Crawley
Christopher Helme
Darby Field
Robert Read
Edward Rishworth
Francis Matthews
Godfrey Dearborne
William Wardhall
Robert Smith
Ralph Hall
Robert Seward
Richard Bulger
Christopher Lawson
George Barlow
Richard Morris
Nicholas Needham
Thomas Wilson
George Rawbone
William Cole
James Wall
Thomas Leavitt
Edmund Littlefield
John Cramme
Philemon Purmot
Thomas Wardhall

The Elder's or Ruler's Oath.

You shall swear by the great and dreadful name of the high God maker and governor of heaven and earth and by the Lord Jesus Christ the prince of the kings and rulers of the earth, that in his name and fear you will rule and govern his people according to the righteous will of God, ministering Justice and judgement on the workers of iniquity

and ministering due encouragement and countenance to well doers, protecting of the people so far as in you lieth by the help of God from foreign annoyance and inward disturbance that they may live a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. So God be help ful and gracious to you and yours in Christ Jesus.

Oath of the people.

We do swear by the Great and dreadful Name of the High God, Maker and Governor of heaven and earth, and by the Lord Jesus Christ, the King and Saviour of his people, that in his Name and fear, we will submit ourselves to be ruled and governed according to the will and word of God, and such wholesome laws and ordinances as shall be derived therefrom by our honored Rulers and the lawful assistants, with the consent of the people, and that we will be ready to assist them by the help of God in the administration of justice and preservation of the peace, with our bodies and goods and best endeavours according to God. So God protect and save us and ours in Jesus Christ.

Exeter Sept. 26th 1738

To the Gentlemen Selectmen of Exeter: We the Subscribers pray you wou'd forthwith call a town meeting and we pray you Insert the following in your s[d] warrant for a town meeting.—To the town of Exeter—The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the western part of the first parish in Exeter, Humbly Sheweth—That we your Petitioners have for diverse years Labour'd under inexpressible Disadvantages & Difficulties on many accounts More particularly by reason of our Great Distance from the publick Meeting House, so that Even in the Summer Season we and our Families cannot attend Regularly & Constantly on the publick worship of God as we would doe and in the winter Season for Diverse years past have thought it Best to be at the Expence of Supporting preaching amongst us without any abatement of our Rates to the Support of the ministry in this Parish, and Having made some Provision & Been at some Cost toward Building a Meeting House among us—

Being now Desirous of Being a Parish by ourselves and as soon as may be Conveniently to Settle an Orthodox Gospel Ministry among us—we therefore pray that you wou'd consider our Circumstances and pass a vote to set us of by ourselves, to be in all respects a Distinct parish as the Parish of New Market is now set off from the first parish in Exeter and we pray if you see Good to vote the Bounds of our Parish as follows. Beginning at old Pickpocket upper Saw-Mill and from thence running South to Kingston line, thence west and by North by Kingston Line four miles, thence north four miles, thence Easterly to New Market South west corner Bounds and So Bounding by New Market South Bounds So far till a South

Line will Strike Pickpocket mill, and then to run from new Market Line South to s[d] Mill the Bounds first mentioned.

Andrew Gilman	Daniel Sanburn
Edward Colcord	Nicholas Dollofe
Nicholas Dudley	Nicholas Gordon
Stephen Leavit	Amos Dollofe
Benjamin Veasey	Elisha Sanburn
Jonathan Robinson	Jonathan Smith
Jeremiah Bean	John Marsh
James Robinson	Charles Young
Solomon Smith	John Roberds Jun.
Jonathan Cram	Ezekiel Smith
Antipas Gilman	Thomas Gordon
Daniel Rundlet	Josiah Moody
Joshua Bean	Samuel Roberds
John Mudget	John Bean
Thomas Mudget	James Dudley
Humphrey Wilson	James Dudley Jun.
Ephraim Robinson	Joseph Atkinson
John Morgan	Nathaniel Foulshom
John Holland	Benjamin Scribner
Maverick Gilman	William Graves
Benjamin Fifield	Moses Fifield.

A true copy attest
Elisha Odlin town clerk.

Exeter May 5th 1739.

According to y[r] Desire (by Mr. Russell) I have hear Sent A List of all The military officers In Exeter with The Date of There Commissions under Gov[r] Belcher. My one Comission bares Date May 7th 1731. Capt. Peter Gilman Capt. Sam[l] Gilman, Capt. Thomas Dean, Capt. Edw[d] Hall, Lieut Daniell Gilman, Lieut Isreall Gilman Ens[n] Rich[d] Mattoon. All These Comissions bares Date July 12[th] 1731.

Leut. Dudley Odlin Cor[t] Ezek[l] Gilman Quarter Mast[r] Jon[a] Connor, Leut Theophilus Smith, Ens[n] John Gilman, Ensign James Levit. These Comissions Bare Date Oct. 21[st] 1737.

I am with Respect s[r] Your
very Humb[le] Sarv[t]
John Gilman.

To The Hon[b]le Rich[d] Waldron Esq[r]

Petition for a Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England. The Hon[b]le His Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Court Convened.

The Humble Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of the North Westerly Part of the Town of Exeter in said Province Shews.

That your Petitioners being Settled in the aforesaid part the said Town Labour under Great Difficulties in attending the

Public Worship of God by Reason of the Distance & badness of the Way to the Meeting House Most of em living More than seven miles from it, & some above nine, so that many Persons in their Families can attend the Public Worship but seldom.

That being most of them new Settlers (tho' upon good land) are not able to maintain a Minister among themselves while they are Subjected to & actually pay their proportion to the maintenance of the Gospel & other Charges in the Town.

That a considerable Parish might be set off from the said Town by the following Metes & Bounds v'z. Beginning at the North West Corner of Exeter & from thence running South 29 Deg. W. partly by Nottingham & partly by Chester line four miles and an half & from thence to extend carrying that breadth of four miles and an half East & by South till it comes to the head line of New Market Parish being bounded North'ly partly by Nottingham & partly by Dover Line and Easterly partly by New Market & partly by Exeter the said four miles & an half being something Broader than New Market & so extending a little beyond it upon Exeter which would Comprehend your Petitioners Estates & yet leave a Large and able Parish at the Town below 'em (which would hardly miss 'em) And tho' they are but few & Poor in Comparison of the rest of the Town yet they would Gladly bear the charge of Supporting the Gospel among themselves were they Exonerated from that & other Town Charges & duties in the other part of the Town—But as the aforesaid Bounds Comprehends a Tract of very Good Land they have reason to think from that as well as by experience that they shall Increase in number every year & Especially when accommodated better with respect to the Public Worship.

That a Parish Incorporated by the aforesaid Boundaries with the usual Privileges & Immunities would be a Considerable means of Cultivating & Improving a large Tract of Land which is now unsubdued, inasmuch as People will be thereby Encouraged to go out & Settle there, & the Public in General as well as the said Town in Particular Benefited thereby.

Wherefore your Petitioners Pray This Honble Court would Please to take the Premises under Consideration and Grant that they may be Incorporated into a Parish with the usual Parish powers & Privileges by the Metes & bounds aforesaid & Exonerated from paying to the Support of the Minister of the Town & other Town charges & duties that so they may support & Maintain the Gospel a school &c. among themselves with more conveniency for themselves & Families—Or in such other manner as this Honble Court in their Great Wisdom & Goodness shall think proper & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c.

Jacob Smith	Theophilus Wodley
David Laurens	Jeradiah Blacke
James Norris Jun.	Joseph Blake
Samuel Elkins Jun.	Benjamin Rolings
Elias Smith	George Been
John Elkins	Nathan Hoight
Daniel Elkins	Samuel Norris
Jonathan Morris Jun.	Samuel Elkins
James Rundlet	Elezar Elkins
John Rowell	Jeremiah Elkins
Joseph Avery	Caleb Gillman
Joseph Norris	Israel Gillman
Jonathan Rundlet	Jacob Sanborn
Joel Judkins	John Sear
Nathan Samborn	Israel Shaperd
Samuel Smith	Hezakiah Swain
Jonathan Smith	James Chase
Ithiel Clifford	Daniel Lad
Joseph Gorden	Joseph Malom
John Carty ?	Benjamin Poter
Timothy Morgen	Jonathan Foulsham
Jeremiah Prescut	Ebenezer Marden
Richard Sanborn	John Norris
Simon Garlon	Jonathan Norris
Job Rowell	John Folintown
James Norris	Jeremiah Prescut Jun.
Jonathan Gidden	Joseph Edgley
John Hall	Moses Rolings.

In the House of Representatives Jan 15th 1741 The within Petition Read and Voted That the Petitioners forthwith Serve the Select Men of Exeter with a Coppy of the Petition and the Votes thereon—That the Town of Exeter may appeare at the Genal Court or Assembly next Tuesday fortnight to Shew Cause (if any they have) why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted—And if the General Court or Assm Shall not be then sitting, Then to appeare the Third day of the Sitting of the next Sessions of Genl Assembly.

James Jeffry Cle Assm

In Council Jan 21 1741–2
Read & Concurrd
Richd Waldron Sec
Jan 21 1741–2.
Assented to B. Wentworth

In the House of Representatives Feb. the 2d 1741 The within Petitioners were heard and the dellegates from the Town of Exeter and they agreed that the Bound shall be as followeth viz. to begin at Durham Line at the North West corner of the p'ish of New Market and from thence Bounding on the head Line of said New Market to the South west Corner of the same, and from thence to run South abt twenty nine degrees West parallel with the head Line of the Town of Exeter Extending to half the breadth of the Township of Exeter from Durham Line aforesaid and from thence to run West & by north to the Midle of the head Line of the Town of Exeter and from thence to bound upon Chester and Nottingham to the North West corner of Exeter and from thence bounding East & by South on Nottingham & Durham to the first bounds.

Therefore Voted that the prayer of the Petition be granted & that they be set off by the Bounds aforesaid and have all powers within themselves

as any Town within this Province Keeping & supporting an Orthodox Minister to preach among them (excepting the Choice of Represent^ves) and untill they shall have liberty to have one among themselve they have liberty to Joyn with the Town of Exeter in the choice of Men to Represent the Town as usuall and that they pay their Proportion of the charge of such Representatives and that they be not Exempted from paying any charge of the Town of Exeter that has already been assest upon them and that they have Liberty to bring in a Bill Accordingly.

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass^m

In Council Feb. 3, 1741–2
Read and concurred
Richd Waldron Secy.
Feb. 3, 1741–2
Assented to
B WENTWORTH

Whereas there is a Petition preferred to the General Court by the northwesterly part of this town to be incorporated into a Parish & s^d Court have Ordered s^d Petitioners to Serve the Selectmen with a Copy of s^d Petition that the town of Exeter may appear at the General Court on Tuesday the Second of Feb^ry next to Show Cause if any they have why the Prayer of s^d Petition may not be Granted—These are therefore to Notify all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants belonging to the town of Exeter to assemble themselves together at the town house in Exeter on Monday the first day of February next at one of the clock afternoon then and there to choose two or more fit persons to represent this town in General Assembly if they see fit to make answer to the above Mentioned Petition in Behalfe of the town of Exeter.

Dated at Exeter Jany ye 23^d 1741–2

Thomas Deane
Nathl Webster } Selectmen
Josiah Gilman

A true Copy Attest Elisha Odlin town clerk

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Exeter holden at the town house in s^d Exeter Feby 1st 1741–2

1 Voted Samuel Gilman Esqr Moderator of s^d Meeting

2 Voted That two men be chosen to make answer to the Petition preferr'd to the General Court or assembly by the Northwesterly part of the town with power to act before s^d Court on behalf of the town as they shall think proper.

3 Voted That Samuel Gilman Esqr & Lieut Theophilus Smith be thee two men for the End afores^d

A true Copy Attest Elisha Odlin town Clerk

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Exeter held at the town house in s^d Exeter Feby 8th 1741–2

Voted Lieut Daniel Gilman Moderator for s^d meeting

Voted That the meeting be adjourned to this day fortnight one of the clock in the afternoon to meet again at the town house.

The meeting being again met according to adjournment this 22^d day of Feby 1741–2

Voted Thomas Deane Clerk for s^d meeting.

Voted That the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Southerly & South-

westerly part of the town of Exeter be granted and that they be set off to be a Parish by themselves and that they have set off to them and their successors the one Halfe of the Breadth of the Land in s^d^ town Lying at the westerly End thereof for a Parish and that it be Bounded as followeth viz: Beginning at the head of New Market Line then running on a South line to Exeter Great Fresh River and then halfe a Mile up s^d^ river, & then South to Kingston Line and so to the head of the township Provided that the above s^d^ Parish doe settle an Orthodox Minister of Christ and maintain & support the same and all other Parish Charges within the same of themselves.

A true Copy Examin'd this 23^d^ day of Feby 1741–2
pr. Me Elisha Odlin town Clerk

Counter Petition.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and to the Honble his Majesties Council & Representatives now in General Court assembled.

Humbly Sheweth your Petitioners (Subscribers hereto) Freeholders and Inhabitants of the South westerly part of the Town of Exeter that your Petitioners for Several years past have with Some of our Neighbors erected a house for the Publick worship of God in the most convenient place as we then and now think for the ease and benefit of the Inhabitants of that part of the Town in General and have in the winter time carry'd on the Publick worship in it but Several persons of that part of the Town haveing of late without our Privity or Consent Petitioned the Town to be set off as a Parish within Particular boundaries as Mention'd in their Petition and the Town having met to consider their Petition adjourned the Consideration of the said Meeting to a further day and untill New Market & Eppin Parish lines were run but the Time of the meeting on the adjournment happening before the runing of New Market and Eppin lines your Petitioners and also Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town Expected that the said meeting would have been further adjourned till the said lines had been run and that nothing would have been acted at said Meeting but being press'd on by the said Petitioners who themselves then unjustly voted for the Petition's being Consider'd and Granted by which means it was then consider'd & granted as afores^d^ by which Means if your Excellency with this hon^ble^ court should confirm the afores^d^ vote then pass'd it would Greatly Injure your Petitioners and therefore your Petitioners humbly move your Excellency and this hon^ble^ Court that the Consideration of any Petition that is or may be preferr'd to your Excellency and this hon^ble^ Court for confirming the afores^d^ vote may not be heard and pass'd upon untill some convenient time be given your Pe-

titioners to appear and shew cause wherefore the Said Vote ought not to be confirmed. And your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever humbly pray &c

Dated at Exeter March 11th 1741*

Andrew Gilman	Ebenezer Colcord
Timothy Leavitt	Nicklas Dudley
Daniel Jels ?	John Dudley
Joseph Leavitt	Samuel Dudley
David Smith	Jonathan Thing
Josiah Thing	John Holond
Benjamin Gilman	Moses Juitt
Jonathan Wadleigh Jr.	Nicklos Smith
John Roberts	Samuell Edgley
Willm Bean	Job Judkings
Humphrey Wilson	Natinel Thing
Jeremiah Been	Edward Colcord
Daniel Wormall	John Dudley Juner
Nicolas Dudley	John Gorge
Edward Stevens	Jearimear Gilman Junr
Stephen Leavitt	Haley Stephens
Sarah Jorden wid	John Odlin Jun.
Samuel Smith —— ?	Jonathan Gilman Junr.
John Conor	Nicklis Gordon
Edward Colcord	John Gils

In the House of Representatives June 22d 1742.

the within Petition Read and Parties Heard A Voted That the Petition be Dismissed

James Jeffrey Cler Assm

* In these dates readers will bear in mind that the old style is followed—March 11, 1741, being March 11, 1741–2. ED.

Petition for Parish privileges.

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esqr Govenr & Commander in chieff in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampre The Honble His Majestys Council & House of representatives for sd Province in Genl Court Convened.

The Humble Petition of Sundry Persons Inhabitants on the Southerly or South Westerly parte of the Town of Exeter in sd Province Sheweth.

That their Estates & habitations are so far from the meeting House where they usually attend the Publick Worship as makes it very Inconvenient for them, most of them living above five miles Distant therefrom Considering of which & the Large Congregation that belongs to the meeting house aforesd & their abillity The Town at a Publick meeting on the 22d day of Febv last have voted a new Parish should be Errected by the Bounds set forth in the Vote (if the Genl Court Saw meet) which will comprehend your Petitioners Estates & habitations & if a Parrish was Errected there will have a Tendency to Promote the settlements of the Lands in that Parte of the

Town & of the Town adjoyning which vote is herewith Presented.

That your Petitioners finde a number of Persons of the s[d] Town have allready Petitioned this Court that this Petition may not be Granted untill they are heard against it but have not set forth any reason they have against it but Proposed to Do it (as it seems by their Petition) *ore tenus* upon the hearing whereby your Petitioners will be under this Disadvantage that they cannot Inform their Council of those facts which will be necessary in answer to what shall be alleged.

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that they may be errected & Incorporated into a Parrish by the Boundaries in the s[d] Vote & that if this Hon[bl]e Court think Proper that the afores[t] Petitioners Should be first heard that they would order that they file their objections in Some Publick office in writing some reasonable time before the Day of hearing that so your Petitioners may have a fair opportunity of answering them & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever Pray &c.

James Dudley	Jon[a] Crane
Rob[t] Young	Tho[s] Mudget
Darby Kelley	Joseph Thing
Benja Veasey	Antipas Gillman
Elisha Sanburne	John Folsham
Jeremiah Bean	Jn[o] Levit Jun[r]
James Robinson	George Roberts
Benja Fifield	Jon[a] Smith
James Dudley Junr.	Jeremiah Row
Jn[o] Roberts Jun[r]	Jon[a] Taler
Moses Fifield	Zach[a] Judkins
Ja[s] Morgan	John Levet
Jos[a] Bean	Ithiel Smith
Maverick Gillman	Alex[a] Roberts
Tho[s] Gordon	Benj[a] Scribner
Dan[l] Sanborn	Sam[l] Dudley
Charles Young	David Bean
Nich[s] Gorden	Joseph Atkinson
Jn[o] Smith	Sam[l] Roberts
Jn[o] Bean	Ezekiel Smith
Josiah Moody	Jacob Smith
Jn[o] Brown	Ebenez[r] Hutchinson
Rob[t] Brown	Daniel Hilton
Sam[l] Jones	Jn[o] Midget
Nathiel Foulsum	W[m] Graves
W[m] Smith	Jon[a] Robinson
Shobel Sanburne	Nich[o] Dolloff

In the House of Representatives, March 17th 1741.

The within Petition read & another Petition of Andrew Gillman of Exeter & others who Desire to be heard before the Prayer of the within Petition be granted.

Voted that some or one of the above or within Petition[rs] Serve the Said Andrew Gillman with a Copy of the Petition & Court order thereon forthwith & that the Parties appear the third Day of the Sitting of the

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Gen[l] Assembly next Sessions to be heard & that the Contrary party may shew Cause (if any they have) why the Prayer of this Petition may not be Granted & that Andrew Gillman & others file their objections in the Secretarys office Ten Days before the next sitting of the Gen[l] Assembly

James Jeffrey Cler Assembly

In Council March 22[d] 1741
The above vote read & Concurr'd
Theo'd Atkinson Sec[y]

Vera Copia
Theodore Atkinson Sec[y]

In the House of Representatives Jun 22[d] 1744 The within Petition Read and the Parties heard thereon and those that desired to be heard against it, and voted

That the Prayer of the Petition be granted they maintaining an orthodox minister & that Ichabod Roby & Richard Jenness Esqrs. be a Committee of this House to Joyne Such as the Hon[ble] the Council shall appoint to go on the Spot and View where it is most Convenient that a new meeting House may be placed, So as to be most Convenient for all the Parties Concern'd & that to be Conclusive and the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass[m]

Remonstrance.

Whereas a Number of the Inhabitants of y[e] Southerly or South westerly part of the town of Exeter By a vote pass'd at a meeting held by adjournment at the town house in Exeter Febry. 22[d] 1741-2 were set off to be a parish by meets and Bounds Express'd in Said vote which they have Since Petitioned to Court to Confirm we think ought not to be confirmed for y[e] following reasons.

1 Because as we apprehend the s[d] vote was illegally obtained the meeting Being before adjourned, to have the Line run which was not done, and y[r]fore many Inhabitants not present thinking the meeting would be further adjourned, and the s[d] Petitioners Being the maj[r] Part of the voters forc't it on and voted it and it Being a particular favour to themselves we Esteem it illegal & y[r]fore not to be Confirmed

2 Because we with some of our neighbors a number of the Inhabitants of the s[d] Southerly &c. Part of the town have been at considerable charge in Erecting and Building a house for the worship of God and the meets and Bounds by which they are set of is contrary to what was ever Proposed by s[d] Inhabitants on y[t] part of the town and was without our Knowledge or Consent and has a manifest tendency to destroy our Labours and to overthrow or at Least Greatly Disturb the worship of God amongst us.

3 Bec: The Line of s[d] Parish includes or takes in many of us & Great part or all of our Estates altho' we timely entre'd

our Protests against any such thing under present circumstances & y^r^fore &c.

4 Bec: of our inability we being not yet ripe for a Parish, under our present Divided circumstances having Got nothing in any forwardness therefor, & most of ye Petitioners Exceeding poor, and scarcely able to live now Even as we may say ye Biggest part of them and having a meeting house to Build a Minister to Maintain & settle and a school to maintain together with ye Largeness of Provinces taxes and we Being also much Divided amongst ourselves, it would as we apprehend if confirmed be to the utter ruin of many familys an impoverishing of the place, a Damage to themselves & families a Laying a yoke upon us all which we shall not be able to Bear

5 Bec: the Confirming of the same under our Present Circumstances would as we apprehend be but confirming of confusion and disorder amongst us and instead of advancing and Enlarging ye Kingdom and Interest of x^e^ would tend to increase intestine Jars and animositys amongst us Even as fear to our entire over throw at last, & y^r^fore not to Be confirmed.

6 Bec: we would further Give as a reason the unpresidency of the thing to be Set of to be a Parish Before agreed w^re^ to set a House & even whilst quarreling about the same ye Like Instance not to be Given we Believe in New England y^r^fore pray y^t^ it may not be confirmed.

Warrant for ye meeting the 17th of May.

Whereas upwards of thirty of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the town of Exeter have Desired us the Subscribers, Selectmen of the s^d^ town forthwith to Issue a warrant to warn a meeting of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the said town to take into consideration the vote that was on the 22^d^ day of Feb^ry^ last by adjournment as they think illegally obtained by the Petitioners of the Southerly & Southwesterly part of the town of Exeter for being set off as a Parish within particular Boundarys as set forth in their Petition which vote the s^d^ Petitioners have since preferr'd a Petition to the General assembly of this Province to get a Confirmation of – and for asmuch as the said thirty Inhabitants & freeholders afores^d^ think said vote was Illegally obtained and that themselves as well as the town in General shall be Greatly injured in Case said vote is Confirmed: These are therefore to notify the freeholders and Inhabitants of this town of Exeter to meet at the town house in s^d^ town on Monday the 17th day of may Currant at two of the clock in the afternoon to consider of a vote if they think fit first if they think the said vote was Legally obtained or not. 2dly if the Confirmation of said vote will not be of a manifest Injury to the town in General. 3^ly^ if the town will then Choose some person to represent the same at the next sitting of the General Court in June next and to doe

what else they shall then think proper to be done about the Premises. Dated at Exeter afores[d] the third day of may anno Domini 1742.

Jonathan Connor John Odlin Jr.
Nath[l] Webster Robert Light
a true copy attest Josiah Gilmon
Elisha Odlin town clerk Selectmen

Remonstrance.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governour & Commander in Chief in and over his Maj[ties] Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Hon[ble] His Majesties Council for said Province & House of Representatives when Conven'd in Gen[l] Assembly.

Whereas Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Southerly & Southwesterly part of Exeter in New Hampshire at the Last Sessions preferred a Petition to this Hon[ble] Court to be set off a Parish (from the old meeting House in Exeter aforesaid where they usually attended the Publick Worship) by meets and Bounds as set forth in the Said Petition. And whereas after the Intent of the above Petitioners was known by us the Subscribers who never Consented to the said Petition we did also Prefer a Petition to this Hon[ble] Court Dated at Exeter March 11, 1741 Praying that the above Petition might not be granted until we were heard, upon which the Court on Considering both Petitions Ordered that we should file our answers in the Secy[s] office ten days before the Siting of the Assembly in their next Sessions– In obedience to which order— for answer why we may not be included within the said Petition and set off from the old Town with them Petition[rs] Is that we do not nor never desired it and that our Estates are parted by the Line proposed. None of us Living within the Body of the new Precinct Proposed but on the Lines on the East and South Sides and that the s[d] lines proposed will be very injurious to us & therefore we Humbly Pray that our Poles and Estates may still be Continued to the old Town of Exeter, and we are humbly of opinion that it would be a very great hardship to set off so great a number of us, the Subscribers from the Place we now belong to against our Wills and Interests and which wou'd prove so Great Damage to us on all accounts and that if this Hon[ble] Court think Proper to sett off that new District, we humbly pray y[t] we may be polled of to the old Town with our Estates within the s[d] boundarys and as in Duty Bound we shall Ever Pray &c.

May 24th 1742

Andrew Gilman	Samuel Dudley Jr.
Timothy Leavitt	Jonathan Thing
John Roberts	Ebenezer Colcord
Nicholas Dudley	Edward Stevens
Benjamin Gilman	Jonathan Wadleigh
Daniel Wormall	Daniel Quimby
Edward Colcord	Andrew Downer
Humphrey Wilson	Abraham Smith
Biley Lyford	Samuel Smith Copp
Haley Stevens	Josiah Thing
Jeremiah Bean ?	Nickelas Dudley Jun.
Joseph Leavit	Sarah Gordon widow
William Bean	John Yonge
Edward Thing	Nath[l] Webster
Nicolas Smith	John Evinly
Daniel Giels	John Dudley
Moses Juet	Stephen Leavit

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Exeter held at the town house in s[d] Exeter May 17th 1742

Voted Mr. Daniel Thing moderator for s[d] meeting. At the same meeting it was put to vote whether the town would act any thing on the warrant and it pass'd in the Negative

A true Copy attest Elisha Odlin toun clerk

Remonstrance.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governour & Comander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England & to the Hon[bl]e His Maj[ties] Council for Said Province & House of Representatives w[r] Convened in Gen[l] Assembly

Whereas Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Southerly & Southeasterly part of the Town of Exeter in New hampshire aforesaid at the last Sessions Preferred a Petition to this Hon[bl]e Court to be set off a psish. (from the old Town of Exeter where they usually attended the Publick Worship) Setting forth therein that the Town at a Meeting held the 22[d] day of february last past voted a new psish should be errected by the bounds set forth in the vote of the 22[d] of Feb (which would comprehend the Petitioners and their Estates) as pr. their Petition.

And by a Petition dated at Exeter the 11[th] day of March last past by Sundry Persons who signed the Petition so dated Andrew Gillman & others Presented the Same to the Gen[l] Court praying that the Petition first above referred to might not be granted till they were heard. the Hon[bl]e Court ordered that the said Petitioners should serve the said Andrew Gillman w[th] a Coppy of the said Petition and Court order thereon and a day of appearance at the sitting of the next Gen[l] Ass[m]

and also to file answers ten days before the sitting of the next Genl Ass^{m} in the Secretaries office (to show cause &c)

And in obeyance to Said order, and for Answer (besides w^{t} is in the said Andrew Gillman & others Petition) they beg leave to say 1st That they are humbly of opinion what was acted at the meeting held on the 22^{d} Fe^{b} last was not done in conformity to the intent of the Town at the first meeting which was held the 8th of Fe^{b} & y^{t} on ye 22^{d} of Fe^{b} was by adjournment, the Reason of which adjournment was (That New Market & Epping Parrish Line might be run and until it was run) that the Town & People might the better know what & whose pssons & Estates would fall in. But the day of the said meeting on ye 22^{d} of Fe^{b} fell out, before either of the Said Lines were Run and your Respondents Supposing the meeting would be againe adjourned until the Said Lines were run they were not at the meeting nor did Several of them know whether their houses or Estate would fall within or without the Said Line of the proposed new pssish The Petitioners for the new Parish took the advantage of so thin a meeting and would not adjourn againe to have the aforesaid Lines run But obtained a vote for setting themselves off (they being ye Majority) and gave themselves bounds– all which management we think to be ag^{t} Law or Equity– & therefore not to be regarded or Confirmed.

2^{d} By the Bounds Set forth in the vote of ye 22^{d} of Feb. the Estates of Several of your Respond^{ts} are split & Divided so as some of their houses are in the old Town & their improved Land within the bounds proposed for the New Precinct and Severall of their homsted Lands divided some one side of the Line and some on the other which may be very prejudicial to them.

3dly they are taken in by said Line of ye proposed precinct against their wills or knowledge (by the vote of ye 22^{d} Feb. afforesaid being past before the Lines aforesaid was run according to the intent of the Town) or that many of them knew how the Lines of the proposed Parrish would fall & none of them being Petitioners.

4th the Great Confusion & heart Burning it will Raise by & with Som (if not amongst the whole) to be forced ag^{t} their wills to that they never desired, and will So greatly prejudice them and their Estates.

5^{thly} The Respondents under their present circumstances & the Circumstances of the Petitioners think they are not yet able to support and maintain the necessary Charges of a psish.

Wherefore they humbly Pray the Prayer of the Petition may not be Granted. But if the Hon^{le} Court Shall see good to indulge the Petitioners with a Grant of a new Precinct according to the Bounds in said Vote of ye 22^{d} Feb.

Then your Respondents Most humbly Pray the Honble Court that their Poles & Estates may be Polled off to the old Town of Exeter, untill further order and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c

May 20th 1742

ANDREW GILMAN for himself and the other respondents afores^d

Rec'd into the Secy's office for the Province of New Hamp^re the 27th May 1742.

In the House of Representatives June 24th 1742

Upon Reconsidering the Votes on the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Southwest part of Exeter for being set off a Parrish– And upon Considering the Within agreement of the Several Parties Voted That Richard Wibird & Geo Walton Esq^rs & Mr Jon^a Thomson be a Comittee to go & View the places agreed upon by the Parties as within mentioned for the placeing the New Meeting House And to fix the place where said Meeting House Shall Stand and that to be a finale Conclusion And that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly for parish Powers and also that the charge of the Comittee be borne and paid by the whole Society– the Committee to make their Return into the Secretarys office.

James Jeffry Cler. Ass^m

In Council June 26th 1742

Concurrd & John Douning Esqr.
aded to the above Comittee.

Theo. Atkinson Secy.

Eod^m Die

In the House of Representatives the Council vote of addition Read and Concurrd

James Jeffry cler ass^m

Eod^m Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

Report on location of a meeting house.

We Elisha Sanburn in behalf of the Petitioners for a Parrish in the Southwest part of Exeter And John Dudley on behalfe of the opposers of said Petition (excepting those Persons that live on the South Side of Exeter River) do agree That two places are proposed where to place a new meeting House for Said District viz: one place to be at the North East Corner of David Robinsons Land in said District Joining to Jon^a Robinsons Land the South Side of the way that goes to Crawleys falls mill Above Deer Hill mill, the other place at the South East Corner of Cap. James Levits Mowing Lot by a Gully on the North Side of the above Road and that Each party makes Choice of a man Indifferent and a third person be chosen by both parties & if they cannot agree upon the third person, Then the two persons first chosen shall make choice of a third person, and that they three prsons Say at which of the above places the Meeting House shall Stand or at any convenient place between the above two places mentioned. In Witness

of the above said agreement the parties above named Each for the parties he Represents have hereunto Set their hands this 23d June 1742

Elisha Sanborn
John Dudley

Brintwood's Petition about the Lines of the Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Honble His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened September the 14th 1742.

Humbly Shews

Joseph Leavit & Elisha Sanborn both of the Parish of Brintwood in the Province of New Hampshire & as Agents for Said Parish.

That the Inhabitants of said Parish Are in an unsettled Condition & Labour under Considerable difficulty notwithstanding the favour & Indulgence of the General Court in making them a Parish which arises from the uncertainty of the Boundaries on the Lower part of said Parish next to Exeter Town. For as the Line which Divides said Parish from said Town is to begin at the Head of New Market Line & then to Run South to Exeter River making near a Right Angle with new market Line and the head of that Line is not sufficiently Ascertained it makes the said Dividing Line uncertain and the Said Parish of Brintwood will be Longer or Shorter according as the said Line shall be Settled which Considerably affects the Inhabitants thereof & the affairs of the Parish and Especially with Regard to fixing the Meeting house & other matters Relating thereunto. That the Parties Interested cannot agree of themselves in the Premises Wherefore the said agents Humbly Pray that a Committee may be appointed by the General Assembly with sufficient authority to ascertain the said Boundaries of the Said Parish of Brintwood as soon as may be by fixing & Running the Said Line of New Market and all other Lines necessary to the end aforesaid for the better Regulation of the affairs of said Parish & preventing Differences & Disputes between the said Parishes & the Town of Exeter aforesd or that the same may be done in such other method & as soon as to the Wisdom & Goodness of the General Assembly shall seem meet.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

Joseph Leavit
Elisha Sanborn

In the House of Representatives Sept. 17th 1742

The within Petition Read: and Voted That the Prayer of the Peti-

tion be Granted in the following manner viz: That Capt. Icabod Roby Mr John Sanborn and Capt Nathaniel Ealy be a Comittee to Run & mark out the Boundary Lines Between Exeter old Parrish and New Market and Between Exeter Old psish And Brentwood and that they make Return of theire doing therein & present a Plan of the Lines they Run how they have Markt out the Boundarys to the General Assembly next Thursday if the Assembly be then Sitting (if not) then on the third day of the Sitting of the Genl Assembly at their next Sessions, for acceptance and that all the Parrishes aforesaid shall have Liberty to be heard (to shew Reason if any they have) why the Lines Shall not be Settled Agreeable to the Report of s^d Comittee before it be Confirmed by the Genl Court. And that in case Mr. John Sanburn & Capt. Ealy or Either of them will not accept & go with Capt. Roby to Run said Lines, That then Capt. Roby Imploy two good understanding men to be chaine men on oath to go with him & that he make Return as aforesaid the Petitioners paying the Charge.

James Jeffry Cler. Ass^m

September 17, 1742
In Council read & Concurred.
Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Eodem Die
Assented to B. WENTWORTH

Petition of Andrew Gilman and others.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governour and Commander in cheif in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the Honble his Majesty's Council & Representatives in General Court assembled

Humbly Sheweth the Subscribers hereunto Inhabitants of the Parish of Brintwood having for some years past Erected a meeting house for the Public worship of God in the most Suitable place for us that live on the North Side of the river and have also Carry'd on the Publick worship in it at our own Cost and in as much as the moving said house or our being obliged to move the Same or pay towards the Erecting a New Meeting house further up into said Parish would be a great hardship as well as cost unto us Several of us Living two miles & upwards from the present meeting house, Wherefore we humbly pray your Excellency and this hon^ble Court will in your Great Wisdom take our Case under your wise Consideration and Grant us Liberty to Continue to Carry on the worship of God in the present meeting house that we may be free from all charges and Duties to any other house that Shall be built and that we may be set off as a particular District with such other priviledges and by Such boundaries as your Excellency and this hon^ble Court in your Great wisdom shall see meet to Grant us, And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray &c.

Dated at Brintwood Novr 16th 1742.

Andrew Gilman
Nicholas Dudley
Timothy Leavit
Daniel Wormall
Bangaman Gilman
Jonathan Gilman
Samuel Stevens
Jmereh Gilman
Thomas Mudget
Samuel Edgerly
Humphrey Wilson
Stephen Leavit
Thoˢ Dudley Junr.
Nicklous Smeth
Darby Kally
Willᵐ Bean
Edward Colcord
Edward Thing
Andrew Donner
John Mudget
Moses Jewett
Josiah Thing
John Dudley
John George
Jeremiah Bean
Jonathan Thing
Samuel Smith
John Morgin
Edward Colcord Jr.
Nicklous Dudley. Juner
John Quimby
Jonathan Dudley
Haley Stevens
Sarah Gorden
John Leavitt
Joshua Bean
Ithiel Clifford
Mavrick Gilman
Jonathan Stevens ?
Antipas Gilman
Masey Dudley
Samuel Dudley Jun.
Mathes Bean
John Odlen Jun.
John Quimbe Jun.

In the House of Representatives 1742.
the within Petition Read and Voted that the Petitioners (at their own cost) serve the Selectmen of Brentwood with a Coppy of this Petition and the votes thereon and yᵗ they appeare the 3ᵈ day of the Sitting of the Genˡ Assᵐ after the 25ᵗʰ day of December next to shew cause (if any they have) why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted

James Jeffry Cleʳ Assᵐ

Prov. N. Hamp—
Nov. 23ᵈ 1742
the above vote of the House read & Concurred
Theod Atkinson Secy.

Prov New Hampʳᵉ } Nov. 24ᵗʰ 1743

Assented to B. WENTWORTH

In the House of Representatives May the 24ᵗʰ 1743
the within Petition and their opponents heard by their Council the House having Considered thereof, Voted That this Petition and also a Petition signed Joseph Thing & Peter Thing & ten others Desiring to be admitted to Joyne with the within Petitioners be both Dismissed

James Jeffry Cler Assᵐ

Brintwood to pay Provᶜᵉ Tax to Exeter.

Whereas the new psish of Brentwood in the Town of Exeter has been Set off from the old Town of Exeter Since the Proportioning the Towns &c. in this Province has been made—And the Warrant from the Treasurer came directed to the Select men of Exeter for the Prov. Tax wᶜʰ Included the Poles & Estates of those persons & Estates in Brentwood and since they have been sett off they Refuse to pay Exeter Constables their Proportion of the Provᵉ Tax which is like to cause a difference between the Town and parrish—For prevention whereof Voted That the Poles & Estates belonging to said psish of Brentwood pay

their Proportion of the Province Tax as they are already Assesed by the Select men of Exeter for the Present yeare, To the Constables who have the Warrants to collect the same and for the future that Brentwood Joyn with the Town of Exeter in making their Province Rates till otherwise ordered by the Genl Assembly and that an act be drawn up accordingly.

James Jeffry Cler Ass^{m}

25– 9th mo 1742
In Council Nov 25th 1742
read & concurrd
Theodore Atkinson Secy
Eodem Die
Assented to B. WENTWORTH

Copy of a report of a Comittee ab^{t} Brintwood meeting House.

Prov^{e} New hamp^{r} / Portsm^{o} Feb 1st 1742–3

Persuant to an act of the Genl Court Bareing Date the 26th Day of June 1742.

Wee the Subscribers being appointed by s^{d} act as a Committee to Survey and View the parrish of Brintwood in the Town Ship of Exeter in the province aforesaid To See where the Most convenient and Comodious place is for the Erecting of a Meeting house for the accomidation of the aforesaid parrish, according to the power and authority given us by the aforesaid act Wee have veiwed all parts of said parrish as was shew'd by the Committee appointed by Vote of the parrish aforesaid to attend and shew us the Several parts of said parrish and Inhabitants. Wee doe therefore adjudge & Determine that a Certain peice of Land call'd or known by the Name of Capt. James Levitts Lott that Lyes upon the North side of the Road or high way that Leads from Deer hill mill to Crawlys Falls Mill upon the Westerly side of the Gully att the Easterly Corner of said Lott is the most convenient place according to the best of our judgm^{t} and shall be the spott for the setting the meeting house on, Which wee give as our Judgm^{t} and Determination under our hands the Day above Said

John Downing
Geo. Walton
Jonathan Thompson
} Comittee

At a Legal parish meeting held at Brintwood on Monday February the 19th 1742–3 Voted Mr. timothy Leavitt moderator of s^{d} meeting at the same meeting it was voted that Jeremiah Bean & Joseph Leavit be chosen to agree with the man that owns the Land where the Committee hath Determin'd a place for a meeting house in s^{d} parish & also to take a Deed of s^{d} Land for the use of the parish of the afores^{d} man If he see fit to give a deed at the same meeting it was voted that John Roberds John Marsh Jeremiah Rowe James Roberdson Daniel Sandburn be Chosen a Committee to Imply men to procure timber for a meeting house in s^{d} parish & all other Stuff that is necessary for building s^{d} house in s^{d} parish, at the same meeting it was voted that the meeting house in s^{d} parish be builded by way of Rate sixty feet long & forty feet wide, at the same meeting voted that the same Committee have power to agree with Carpenders & other Labouring men in s^{d} parish to build the frame of the s^{d} meeting house upon the lot that the said committee hath appointed for setting said house, at the same

meeting voted that the frame of said meeting house be Compleated workman Like fit to Raise by the tenth day of June next Insuing, at the same meeting voted that Every Labouring man & yoake of oxen have Seven Shillings pr. day Each & find himself for every days work he is out about s^d^ frame or house.

A true Copy taken out of Brintwood parish Record
Attest Joseph Leavit parish Clerk.

Joint Petition, &c.

Province of
New Hampshir

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governour in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire aforesaid. To his Majesties Councill and house of Representatives in General assembly Convened.

Whereas there is a Petition of Andrew Gilman and others now lying before your Excellency and the Honble Court Praying that your Excellency and the Honble Court will in your great Wisdom take their Case under your wise Consideration and Grant them Liberty to Continue to Carry on the Worship of God in the Present Meeting house that they may be free from all charges and Duties to any other house that shall be built and that they may be set off as a Perticular District with Such other Priviledges and by Such Boundaries as your Excellency and this Honble Court in your Great Wisdom Shall see meet to Grant them. To which said Petition our names are not affixed and we being Freeholders or Inhabitants within the Parish of Brintwood and are Desireous to have the Prayer of the said Petition Granted (if Consistant with your Excellencys & your honours Pleasure) Do Earnestly pray that we may be Received as Joynt Petitioners with them and Deemed as Such– And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c.

Dated at Brintwood May 10th 1743

Sameuel Thing	John Holan
Nicolas Gordon	Calep Brown
Joseph Thing	Ebenezer Towle
Nathl Webster	Daniel Quimbe
Jona Dudley	Joseph Thing Jun.
Joseph Hoghit	Peter Thing

Province of }
New Hampshire }

To his Excellency B Wintworth Esqr. Capt. Governor in and over his majᵗⁱᵉˢ Provence New hampshire. To his majᵗⁱᵉˢ Council and house of representᵉˢ in General Assembly Convened.

Whereas there [is] a Petition of Andrew Gilman and others now Lying before your Excelency and the Honᵇˡᵉ Council Praying &c & Bearing Date Desember the 10 1743 to which our names are not in Inffixed & we being Free holders or Inhabitants within the Parish of Brintwood and are Desireous to have the Prayers of the sᵗ Petition Granted if Consistant with your Excellency and your Honᵇˡᵉ Council and house of representᵛᵉˢ Pray that we may be Rec'd as Joynt Petitioners with them and Deemed as such & your Pititioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

John Leavitt
Ithiel Cliford
Mavᵏ Gilman
Noclos Smith

Province of }
New Hampshire }

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in cheif In and over His majesties Province of New Hampshire And to the Honᵇˡᵉ His Majesties Councill and House of Representatives In General Court Assembled.

Humbly Shews The Subscribers Inhabitants of the Parish of Brintwood in the Province aforesaid That they having at their own Cost and Charge Erected a house for the Publick Worship of God in said Parish– Do Therefore Humbly Request your Excellency and The Honᵇˡᵉ Court To Enable us by an act of the Honᵇˡᵉ Court To Poll off ourselves our Familys and Estates and such others as shall Think meet to Joyn with us in Carrying on the Publick Worship in said house And that they may be Exempt from Charge towards Supporting any other house or Minister in said Parish besides their own, And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray.

Dated December 10ᵗʰ 1743

Andrew Gilman
Daniel Wormall
Benjᵃ Gilman
Nicolas Dudley
Nicolas Dudley Junr.
Samuel Stevens
Jeremᵃ Gilman
Jonthan Gilman
Haley Stevens
Wido Mare Dudley
Widow Sarah Gorden
Josiah Thing
Timothy Leavitt
Thomas Flanders
John Yonge
Edward Colcord
John Dudley
Stephen Leavitt

Edward Thing	John Holon
Daniel Quimbe	Martha Been
Humphrey Wilson	Jonathan Modget
Jonathan Quimbe	Joshua Been
Samuel Dudley	John Morgon Junr.
Samuel Smith	Darbe Kely
Jeremiah Bean	Jonathan Thing
Samuel Edgerly	Antipas Gilman
Caleb Brown	Joseph Hoit

In the House of Representatives X^r the 15th 1743

The above Petition Read and Voted that the Petitioners at their proper Cost & Charge Serve the Select men of Exe^r and the Select men of Brentwood with a Coppy of the Petition and Votes thereon–to appeare the third day of the Sitting of the Genl Assembly after the first day of April next to show cause if any they have why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass^m

In Council Eodem Die
read & non concurred
Theodore Atkinson Sec.

And voted That the Prayer of the Petition be granted and that any Rateable Person or Persons that are now Inhabitants within the s^d Parish of Brintwood may Joyn with the Petitioners Provided they enter their name with the Clerk of the Parish on or before the 25th Day of Feb^ry next & that any Person that shall settle in the s^d Parish within Three years may alsoe have the Liberty of Joyning with the Petitioners by Entring their names with the Clerk of that Parish and that an act be Drawn up accordingly

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

In the House of Representatives Xr 16th 1743

the above vote of Councill Read & non concurred & Voted That the Petitioners at their proper Cost and charge Serve the Select men of Brentwood with a Coppy of this Petition and the Votes thereon, to appeare the week after next (if the Genl Ass^m be then sitting) if not then to appeare the third day of the Sitting of the Gen. Ass^m after that time to shew cause why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted–

James Jeffry Cler. Ass^m

Dec 17th 1743.
In Council Read & Concurred
Theodore Atkinson Sec

Eodem Die

Assented to B. Wentworth

In the House of Represen^ves Xr 30th 1743

the Petitioners and the Respond^ts heard & the House having Considered thereof Voted That the Said Pet^n be Dismist

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass^m

Remonstrance, &c.

Province of }
New Hamp^r }

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^ties Province of New Hamp^re And to the Honble his Maj^ts Councill And House of Representatives In General Court Assembled.

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Parish of Brentwood in the Province aforesaid Having been Served with a Copia of a Petition of a Number of Inhabitants of said Brentwood Dated Dec 10th 1743 who have Petitioned this Honble Court to enable them by an act of sd Court to Poll off themselves & families and Estiats & such others as shall think meet to Joyn with them in carrying on the Publick Worship of God at a certain house they have erected in sd Parrish at their own Cost and Charge– And being served with the Votes on sd Petition & to appear in sd Court to show Cause why the Prayer of the sd Petition may not be granted our Reasons why said Petition may not be granted are as followeth.

1st If their Petition should be granted it would be very distructive both to them & us Neither of us being able to Pay the Publick & Private charges Nessisarily Arising in sd Parish the which we should be able to Do should the Parish & Inhabitants be Kept together.

2dly Should their Petition be granted It would Put the Parish to More confusion and Dificulty about seting the Meeting houses than ever has been yet & besides should their Request be granted there are many families in sd Parish as they say which lives convenient to poll off some to Kingston & some to Epping for the benefit of going to meeting which purpose to petition sd Court to poll off also If this Petition be granted.

3dly Inasmuch as that after three of the Gentleman who were appointed in the Charter for sd Parish to State the place where ye meeting house should Stand had appointed the place there was a unanimous Vote in sd Parish at a legal Parish Meeting to build a meeting house on the spot appointed by sd gentlemen & then chose a Comtee to take care & to build sd house which Committee agreed with men to build it at the Parish's Cost & it is now framed Ready to be Raised but the Present Selectmen Refusing to Raise Money by way of Rate to pay the charge the men that did the work Kept out of there honest due, And they Petitionrs as we Suppose think to Escape paying their part of the charge towards building sd meeting house by there Polling off And several of them being of the first Petitioners for sd Parish.

We hope that by these objections and What may be further offered on in genl your Honours Will Pleas to deny there Request. And that and End May be speedily put to our long troubles we labour under.

Dated Decr 26th 1743.

John Roberds	Biley Harde
John Marsh	Nicklas Gordon
Nathl Folsham	Jedediah Prescutt
Benjamin Fifield	James Young
John Brown	Thomas Gording

Jeremiah Bean sen.
Moses Fifield
Williman Graves
Jeames Robinson
Hanary Marsh
John Folsham
David Bean
Benjamin Veazey
John Roberds Jun.
Baniman Roburds
Ezekiel Smith
Robert Brown
Job Keniston
James Dudley Jun.
Daniel Sanborn
Geog Robt: s
Elisha Sainborn
Joseph Leavitt
Daniel Gorden
Daniel Giles
Daniel Giles Jun
John Giles
David Smith
Jeames Marsh
Biley Lyford

Jonathan Smith
Benjamin Rogers
Thomas Critchett
Isaac Clefford
Jacob Hobs
Joel Judkins
Jehial Smith
Zechriah Judkins
Samuel Rogers ?
Robert Young
Ambros Hinds
Charles Young
John James
Nichelas Dolloff
Jeremiah Row
John Mudget
Jonathan Robinson
Jonathan Talen?
Samuel Young
John Bean
Benj[a] Scribner
Joseph Moody
Edmund Roberts
Nicholas Gorden Jun.

EXETER—(continued).

Petition of Andrew Gilman and others about a meeting-house, 1743.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire–

And to the Honble his Majesties Councill and Representatives In Generall Court assembled—

We the subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Northerly part of the Parish of Brintwood in the Province aforesaid Do Humbly Crave Leave of your Excellency and honours to Lay this our Humble Remonstrance of our Distressed Circumstances before your Excellency and honours as follows Viz:

Many of us Living four or five miles Distant from Exeter Meeting house have Attended the Publick Worship of God at that house for many years past with Great difficulty and our families Encreasing made it much more Difficult Especially in the Winter Spring & Fall of the year—

Wherefore about eight years ago we with several of the Southerly part of said Parish Erected a house for the Publick worship of God in the most suitable place as they thought, and we Now do think to carry on the Publick Worship in and accordingly at our own Charge have carry'd on the same in the winter, Spring and fall of the year ever since as we had for four years or thereabouts before Erecting said house carry'd on the Publick Worship in a Private house Standing near our Present Meeting house—

And about Last February was twelve month the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Southerly part of Brintwood aforesaid Petitioned the Town of Exeter aforesaid to be sett off as a Parish Contrary to the will and Desire of most of us, and said Town of Exeter Granted their said Petition Not with standing many of us Dissented therefrom. And their said Petition being granted they afterwards Apply'd to your Excellency and honours for a Charter for said Parish which was Granted them Contrary to our Desire and Greatly to our hurt– And we also having Earnestly Petition'd your Excellency &

honours that we might be Permitted to Continue to Carry on the Publick worship of God in our said house and to be set off by such Boundaries as your Excellency & honours should think meet and be Exempted from all Charge towards the meeting house and ministry in the Southerly Part of said Parish &c: as by our Petition Lying before your Excellency and Honours in your hon^ble Court may appear which Petition the hon^ble House of Representatives have seen meet to Dismiss– And also your Excellency & honours having appointed a Committee of four Gentlemen two out of Each house to prefix the place where the meeting house ought to Stand—Three of said Gentlemen have been and made return, but is accounted voy'd by your Excellency & honours, For that the Committee Did not all joyn in their Returne and for which Reason our Petition was also Dismisst. wherefore our Case at Present seems very hard and Difficult we having been at such cost to Erect our said house and to Maintain Preaching in it hitherto, and the minister also who hath hitherto Preached to us being at our Earnest Desire willing to Continue with us in the Ministry. If your Excellency & honours will in your great wisdom take this our Remonstrance of our Difficult Circumstances in our Present meeting house not being Establish'd and our aforesaid Petition not being Granted and the great charges and Difficulties we hitherto have and Still do Labour under, under your Excellency and Honours wise consideration and be pleas'd to grant us Releif herein as in your great wisdom you shall see meet &

As in Duty Bound we your Excellencies & honours Most Obedient, Humble Servants shall Ever Pray &c–

Dated at Brintwood June 27th Anno Domini 1743.

Andrew Gilman	John George
Humphry Wilson	Edward Thing
Edward Colcord	Daniel Quimby
Nicholas Dudley	Sarah Gordon
Antipas Gilman	John Leavitt
Timothy Leavitt	Samuel Stevens
Beniamin Gilman	Joseph Hoyt
Samuel Edgerley	Joshua Been
Samuel Dudley	John Morgin
Jonathan Thing	John Holon
Stephen Leavitt	Zekil Claford
Josiah Thing	Samuel Smith
Jonathan Hadley	Daniel Wormall
Nicolas Dudley Jun	Marthy Been
Jeremiah Bean	Haley Stvens
John Dudly	Jeremy Gilman. Jun

In the House of Representatives July 1st 1743.

The within Petition Read & Considered on & Voted That Eleazer Russel Esq Mark Langdon Gen^t & Mr. Noah Barker of Stratham be a comitee to Joyne such as the Honble the Council shall appoint to go to the Parish of Brentwood and View the Situation of said Parrish, &

see whether it will be most convenient for the Inhabitants thereof to be Divided Into two Parrishes or whether the whole shall meet at the Meeting House already Built for some Limited time or to Conclude upon some other method that they shall think to be for the best good of the said p'ish, In order for their being settled in Peace, and that they make Report to the Genl Ass^{m} the third day of the sitting of the Genl Ass^{m} at their next sessions And that the Petitioners be at the charge of the Comittee and that the Petitioners serve the Sellet men of Brentwood with a Coppy of this Pet^{n} & Votes that they may Notifie the p'ish of these proceedings – and that those that will dispute what is acted may appeare at the day above said.

James Jeffry Cler^{k} Ass^{bly}

Eodem Die

In Council read & concurrd & the Above s^{d} Comittee hereby established & Impowerd for the End Above s^{d}

Theod. Atkinson, Secry

Eodem Die

Assented to. B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of sundry persons in Exeter about support of a Minister among themselves.—1744.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Govornor and Comander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in Council,

Humbly Sheweth. Andrew Gilman Nicholas Dudley and Humphry Wilson, Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Northerly part of the Parrish of Brentwood on Behalf of themselves and theire distressed Neighbours, and friends Living within the Northerly part of said Parrish, who have once and againe been supplicating v^{r} Excellency with the other branch of the General Assembly for our being sett off from the other part of said Parrish, and that wee might Injoy the liberty of carrying on the Publick Worship of God in our present Meeting House free from any Charge to be Laid on us by the other part of Said P'ish, and in as much as our Grievances Still remaine unredrest, and fearing the daily approches of Greater by unreasonable Taxes &c—

We your humble Petitioners, for our selves and our distressed Brethren and Neighbours, would therefore humbly crave Leave from y^{r} Excellencie once more to lay our distressed circumstances under your wise consideration and humbly pray that your Excellency will be pleased to think of some speedy way to set us off from the other part of said Parish, and from the charges thereof. That we may still continue the Publick Worship of God in our own Meeting House, and not be forced to go to the Meeting House, which some of the other part of the Parrish would have us, which we could not do (in time of war) without the utmost hazzard of the Lives

of our Selves & Famillyes. The place where their meeting House is propos'd to be sett, being in the midst of a Great Swamp, and verry hazardous and also difficult to go to either in Spring or Fall of the yeare— We your humble Petitioners most humbly leave our selves and our distressed circumstances to the Pitty and compassion of your Excellency, humbly praying your Pitty and Compassion and the heareing and Granting this our Petition, as in your Wisdome you shall see most meet–

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

Dated May 26th 1744.

ANDREW GILMAN
NICHOLAS DUDLEY
HUMPHRY WILSON

In behalfe of the rest that have now a Petition lying before the Genl Assm

---

Petition to be exempted from support of a minister not of their choice.

1744 To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Comander in Cheif in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshr &c, and to the Honble His Majesties Councill and House of Representatives, in Generall Assembly Conven'd—

The Humble Petition of a Number of the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter, Humbly Sheweth that att the Annuall Meeting held in Exeter in the year 1743: The Town did att sd Meeting proceed (in a hasty and resolute Manner as wee Conceive contrary to the mind of most of your Petitioners who timely enterd their dissents) to chuse a Comittee, Absolutely to agree with, and Settle Mr Woodbridge Odlin as a Colleague with his father in the Ministry which was effected by sd Comittee, and the Gentleman soon settled; which being very greivous to us & wee most of us apprehending that neither wee nor our households would be likely to proffit under his Ministry therefore could not receive him as our minister and have for our own and households Spirituall Edification supported a Gospell Minister to preach to us upwards of a year, and have been Obliged to pay our proportion toward the Settlement, and Salary of Sd Gentleman, notwithstanding: and as most of us have tho't it our duty so to do, wee still look upon it our duty for our own, and our households & others Spirituall Edification to settle a Gospell Minister amongst us and in order thereto have erected a meeting House for the Publick worship of God att our own cost, and having already

made application to the town for releif, but they granting o us none: wee tho't it our duty to make application to this Honble Court for relief, therefore wee humbly pray that your Excellency, and Hon^rs will take our case under your wise consideration, and grant us relief in the following manner Viz. by exempting us our households and Estates, and all those persons and familys with their Estates, whose hearts the Lord shall Incline to join with us, within a limmited time to be prefixt by your Excellency, and your Honours from paying any thing to the further support of the now settled ministers, or those that may Succeed them; provided wee support a Gospell Minister amongst ourselves: or to grant us relief in any other way that you in your great Wisdom shall think best; And if your Excellency and Hon^rs should think it reasonable That wee have some allowance made us for the money wee have already paid, toward the settlement and support of s^d Gentleman, and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c–

Exeter July 18th 1744.

John Lord	Thomas Lord
Sam^ll Gilman	Samuel Noris
Nehemiah Gilman	Nich^o Gilman, Jr
Daniel Smith	Thomas Dean
Josiah Gilman	Abnar Thustin
Daniel Thing	Moses Swett
Benj^a Thing	Robert Lights
Jonathan Gilman	Sam^ll Gilman, Jr
John Leavitt	John Dean
Wadleigh Cram	Richard Smith
Daniel Gilman	Nicholas Gordin
Josiah Ladd	Jonathan Gilman, Jr
Dudley James	John Light
James Dudley	Stephen Thing
Peter Gilman	Jeremiah Bean
Daniel Folsom	Richard Smith, Jr
Trueworthy Gilman	John Looge. Jun
Moses Gilman. Jun	John Haines
John Gilman 3rd	Eben^r Sinkler
Samuell Dalloff	Jon^a Young
Jon^t Judgskins	Benjamin Lary
Charles Rundlet	True Dudley
John Sloper	Joshep Smith
James Thosten	Abner Dollof
John Dudley	George Dutch
Theophilus Smith	Joshua Foulsham
John Phillips	John Robinson, Jun

In the House of Representatives July 19th 1744.

The within Petition, Read, and Voted that the Petitioners at their own cost and Charge Serve the Selectmen of the Old Town of Exeter with a Coppy of this Petition, and the Votes thereon, That the said Selectmen may call the said Town togeather to choose Agents (if they see cause) to appear the second day of the sitting of the General Ass^m

after the Last day of July curr^{t} to shew Cause (if any they have) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be Granted.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^{m}

In Council July 20th 1744.
read & Concurred

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Eod^{m} Die–

Assented to– B. WENTWORTH.

At a meeting of the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter holden at the town house in Exeter

July 30th 1744,——

Voted, Maj^{r} Nich^{o} Gilman mod^{er} of said meeting

Voted, that their be agents chosen to Repersent the town in General Court or Assembly

Voted That Mr Nich^{o} Peryman, Mr James Gilman & Zebulon Gidding be agents for that end

Voted That they or either of them to appear in General Court at the next seting to shue cause why the Petition of a number of this Town should not be Granted and to Defend the town against the same–

A Copy– Zebulon Giddinge, Town Clerk.

Agreement of parties.

October ye 15th 1744.

Acording To the advice of His Excelencey we a number of Booth Peartie in the Parish of Brintwood have Descorsed on our afair Consearning an agreement–

And the upper People Desire stell to stand by the first Act in making the Parish. Notwithstanding they whose Names are under written are willing Rather than to be devided that the meeting house should be sit by way of Rate Viz, As Near the Senter of the width of the Parich on the Middle Rode as may be and as Near the Botim Line as that one half the money according to the Rate this year shall be Raised Above it—

Reuben Smith	Elisha Samborn
Benj^{a} Veasey	Benj^{a} Fifield
James Young	Daniel Samborn
Jeremiah Bean	John Roberts
Jon^{a} Robinson	Jerr^{h} Rowe
James Robinson	Moses Jewet

Petition in Answer to that praying for exemption, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth. Esqr Governor and Commander in Cheif in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, and to the Hon^{bl} ^{e} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Convened–

The Agents for the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter in the Province aforesaid Legally Chosen at their meeting held at Exeter aforesaid on the thirtieth day of July

1744 to make answer to and Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition of a Number of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter– Prefeared to your Excellency and this hon^ble^ Court (on the 18th day of July 1744.) may not be Granted.

Imprimis The said Petitioners have been Guilty of a very Great Mistake in setting forth in their Petition the Hasty & Resolute manner (as they conceiv'd) of chusing a committee absolutely to agree with and Settle Mr Woodbridge Odlin as a Colleague with his Father in the Ministry, which they Say was Effected by Said Committee and the Gentleman Soon Settled— We Humbly Crave Leave to Reply and Say that the said meeting (being on the 28th day of March 1743.) was carried on by the Freeholders and Inhabitants (Excepting the Petitioners) in as Moderate & Deliberate a manner as annual meetings have been usually carry'd on in, and the choice of the said Committee was made after a mature consideration and Deliberation of the Voters then Present (as we apprehend) by a very Great Majority and sometime after one of the said committee (viz) Mr Benjamin Thing refusing to act and the others not thinking it Safe to act without him (being chosen to Act Joyntly) upon their Representation of it to the Selectmen of said Town another Town meeting was called on the thirteenth day of June then next to see if the Town would proceed in Chusing another in his room or give power to the Remainder of the said Committee or the Major part of them to act in the Premisses—At which meeting after Due consideration of the Voters then Present they Voted that the Remainder of the said committee or the Major part of them should have full power to act in and about the Premises: And the Gentleman was not ordain'd untill the Twenty Eighth of September following Waiting that time in hopes that many of the Principal men of the Now Petitioners would have been Reconcil'd to the Gentleman whom they by their request, with Sundry others on the 4th of January 1741 by a paper under their hands approv'd of and Pray'd his assistance with his hon'^d^ Father in the ministry and thereby prevail'd with him to refuse a call that was about to be made him at the Town of Biddeford, where he had for some time preached to the Great Satisfaction of that People, and also at many other Places as well as in our Town too well known to be Denied by the Petitioners, and his Life and Doctrine being agreeable To us the Town Proceeded as before—And what moved many of the Petitioners to be prejudiced against him we know not.— For at the ordination there were Twelve Churches by their Elders and Delegates Call'd to advise and Assist in the ordination before whom many of the now Petitioners made their Objec-

tions in writing against their Proceeding to said Ordination and were Patiently heard by the said Elders and Delegates, who after serious Deliberation on the said Objections Judged the same to be Insufficient and so Proceeded to the Ordination since which several of the Petitioners have joyn'd in Communion with our Church and two of them (viz:) Mr: Benjamin Thing and Mr John Light, neither they nor their Familyes have forsaken the Ordinances, and Major Thomas Deane, another of the Petitioners who had for some time left the Communion of the Church upon his Declaring that he was Convinced that it was his Duty to Returne to the Ordinance of the Lords Supper and to Joyn in communion with this church hath been Lately Re admitted to and Partaken of the Ordinance

2dly We Crave Leave to Observe that some of the now Petitioners Joyn'd with others in a Petition to the Select men for their Incerting in their warrant for the annual meeting to Consider of and Vote if they tho'^{t} meet the Choice of a Committee to call and agree with the said Mr Woodbridge Odlin to assist his hon^{d} Father as a colleague in^{t} the ministry with him &c–

3dly We would Crave Leave to Observe that the reasons that Several of the Petitioners who were church members Gave by a paper under their hands Dated May 14th 1743, for their with drawing at first was "That they had Observed with Grief the Conduct of our Rev'd Pastor Mr John Odlin with regard to the work of Gods Glorious Grace in the Late outpouring of his Spirit Amongst us of which they Trusted many of them had been the Subjects, and their being Convinced in their Consciences that our said Pastor and Church Did not treat the same as a work of Soveraign Rich Grace, but that the method of their Late Conduct, the Petitioners apprehended had been, and Continued in Opposition thereto– in as much as the Instrument it had pleased God to make use of in carrying it on and the Subjects of it are Discountenanced" they meaning as we apprehend thereby, that our Rev'^{d} Pastor and Church Refused to allow such of the Itinerant Preachers to Preach in the meeting house, who did not first wait on our rev^{d} Pastor and give him Satisfaction as to their Principles and Doctrine, & also that he did not comply with the Irregularities of the Times, and also as to the method of the Settlement of Mr Woodbridge Odlin which wee apprehend was Right–

4^{thly} We further Observe that (as we humbly Conceive) the calling & Settlement of Mr Woodbridge Odlin was agreeable to the Laws of this Province, & the usage of the churches in this Government: much the Greater part of the Town being Sencible of their need they Stood in of an assistant to his hon^{d} Father by reason of his age as well as his bodily Infirmitys

and also having had full and Satisfactory proof of the Said Mr Woodbridge Odlins Life Conversation and Doctrine–

5thly We Humbly Conceive that the Prayer of the Petition if Granted Will Tend Greatly to the Prejudice not only of this church but also of all the other churches of this Government and will be a manifest breach of the Law of this Province and Contrary to the Constitution of the churches in the Country for any small number of Persons who through unreasonable Prejudice shall desire this Honble Court to Exempt themselves, their Familys and Estates from paying toward the support of the Present settled ministers or those that succeed them when the Law of this Province in that case already made & provided obliges them so to do, unless the Petitioners should so change their Principles in Religion that the Act of Parliament would Free them from the same which we apprehend is not the Case of the Present Petitioners— Neither have the Petitioners, Either before the Council Present at the ordination, or the Council Lately call'd by this church supported their Objections against the calling & ordaining of Mr Woodbridge Odlin. And the offence Taken at the settlement of the Rev. Mr: Woodbridge Odlin under the Notion of his being an opposer of the work of God– the said Last Council in their Result say that therein they thot they (meaning the withdrawing brethren, some of the Petitioners) had cast an undue Reflection upon him— And as to the Validity and Regularity of his Settlement, they found it was agreeable to the majority both of Town and Church and approv'd and ratified by a Venerable Councill of Churches call'd by this church— and the said Councill Further adjudg'd that the agriev'd brethrens calling a Council at the Time and in the manner they did, was an uncommon Step of Proceedure, and that this church have been in the way of their Duty and have Done no more than they had a right to do in calling them as a Councill without the agrieved brethren, They being Desir'd to joyn in calling them—

6ly We Humbly Conceive that the conclusion of the Prayer of the Petitioners is absurd unreasonable and unjust in Desiring to have some allowance made them for the money they have already paid towards the settlement and support of the said Gentleman, meaning (as we suppose) our Present Ministers– as to the settlement of the Revd Mr John Odlin very few if any of the Petitioners paid any thing towards it, and as to the settlement and support of the Revd Mr Woodbridge Odlin, Several of the Petitioners having Lately come into the Town have paid Little or Nothing towards it and some of them not in the Rates untill this year–

Lastly– We Humbly Crave Leave to Observe to your Ex-

cellency and honours That the Principal motives (as we conceive) that the Petitioners have used in their Petition in order to Induce this hon^ble Court to grant the Prayer of their Petition are these two (viz) "First that they have Supported a Gospel Minister to preach to them upward of a year" and 2dly that they "have at their own Cost Erected a meeting house"—

And as to the first we humbly conceive that they will be under Some Difficulty to prove that they have Supported a Gospel Minister and we conceive that their Separating from the Established Ministry of The Town without Just cause was Evil in itself and the Evil Example thereof has Drawn Many belonging to the Neighbouring Towns & Parishes away to their Separate house and to Leave their own Ministers which thing if Countenanced by this Honble Court will be a Leading Example to Others, and be a means of bringing this Province into the utmost Confusion both by Dividing Familys and Separating friends and Christian Societies–

And 2^nly as to their Erecting a meeting house (as they say in their Petition) at their own cost, We humbly Conceive that any number of Gentlemen may build an house at their own Cost if they please; But for this Honble Court who have the Religious as well as Civil Interests of this Province under their wise Care, to set it apart for the Publick worship of God, to the Disturbance and breaking up of the Neighbouring Churches and the Publick peace of the Government, we humbly Conceive would be a Great Grief and burden to the people in General and bring the Province into Such confusion as will Render the Inhabitants unable to Support the Charge of the Government.

For These reasons with what others we shall crave Leave to Lay before your Excellency and Honours, We Humbly hope This Honble Court will be Induced not to Grant the Prayer of the said Petition but to Dismiss the same–

NICH. PERRYMAN
JAMES GILMAN
ZEBULON GIDDINGE

Replication to the foregoing.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov & Com-and^r in Chief in & Over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Represen^s in Gener^l Assembly Conven'd—

The Reply of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of ye Town of Exeter who have Petitioned to be Exempted from

paying towards the support of the ministry in said Town &c. to the answer of the Agents of s[t] Town to their Petition——

May it please your Excellency & the other the Hon[ble] Branches of the Legislature The fav[r] granted your Petition[rs] with regard to an opportunity of making a written Reply to the answers made to their Petition in behalf of the Town gives them Encouragem[t] to hope for success in the matter under Debate as the merit & Weight of w[t] Shall be offer[d] can in this way be much better Consider'd

Your Petition[rs] would beg leave Humbly to Observe in General, that in this affair as they are not Influenced by sinister views, corrupt or vicious Principles nor any but Consciencious motives their Case claims the closer attention & greater tenderness— and as they are Sincere in their Principles which relate to this matter so they would be just in their Reasonings upon it: & should therefore have been glad to have avoided entering into the consideration of several points & matters of fact moved in the said answer because they will be a Diversion & a Digression from the Main Question– but could not prevail with the Agents to wave them. To come then to the s[d] answer & Reply in as brief & clear a manner as we can by following the Several Articles thereof. We must Observe their first begins with charging the Petition[rs] with a mistake in Representing that the Town in Setting Mr Woodbridge Odlin proceeded in a hasty & Resolute manner, & then they go on to give an acco[t] of y[t] affair, the Substance of w[ch] is that it was carried on wth great deliberation & every step Maturely Considered: That every Person Concern'd acted their part from y[e] fullest Evidence & Strongest Conviction of the Expediency of the thing & the Legality of the means, & the Like— But in this acc[t] there is nothing said of the Art used first to prepare matters by prevailing on near Seventy Persons to sign a Petition to the Select men praying a proper Clause might be Inserted in the warrant for the Annual meeting 1743 & so working up the minds of the Petitioners to favour the thing before it came to be considered in Public— They also have omitted to Observe that when the Town was met & about to proceed on this affair: the Non-Petitioners or most of them made the strongest Remonstrances ag[t] desiring it might be suspended for some time at least offering to supply the Desk if necessary by Subscription as they had done y[e] year before hoping that a little time as it would have given greater Opportunity to have advised & proposed so it would have produced a greater unanimity of Opinion, if not terms of union & peace —They dont say a word of the Contempt w[t] w[ch] this was Rejected. & how Resolutely they proceeded as well to Vote the Raising money as chusing a Committe and Effect & carry

these designs into Execution which had been Contrived before, nor how their proposals at the second meeting were Rejected —nor that a church Com^{ttee} was chosen to call assistance for the Ordination before the agreement made wth the Gentleman to be Ordain'd wch with many other transactions too tedious to Recite, prove the thing to be Contrived & determined before it came to be Voted, and that those who asserted their freedom & Liberty had Reason to be dissatisfied, the whole being done before the Deacons & Standing Church committee had any notice of it only as Inhabitants of the Town, and after the Town had determined the matter & a com^{tee} chosen to agree the Terms a Proclamation was Issued under the ministers hand, appointing a Day of fasting & prayer in the Town to seek Direction, now these proceedings & much more of the like nature were Just Causes of Dissatisfaction with this Settlement, & that we might well say it was Resolute if not hasty Especially if we Consider that the Towns Committee (men chosen no Doubt with good Policy) was Impower'd to compleat this agreement without making a report to the Town for their Confirmation or Approbation which is the usual way, for we think a precedent like this cant be found wch th^{o} by virtue of a Particular Law may be barely called Legal can by no propriety be term'd prudent & wch if ever it was done before was only done, as we Conceive it was here to serve a Sinister End–

But as to what is objected to us, that we had a hand in Calling or Inviting the Gentleman to preach in Town we Conceive there is no weight in it, for such Invitation is always understood to be in order to chusing, wch necessarily Imply's Refusing— When a Congregation Invite several Candidates, they are often call'd from other places, where they are upon probation But it was never suppos'd that such Invitation carried in it an obligation to chuse the Person Invited for where more than one Preaches before the choice, all cant be chosen, and if but one Preaches, where can be the choice— unless it be that which we have all heard of—

But we pass on——— The second article of the answer we conceive is of no Consequence in this Debate, if admitted to be true, for it only proves that some of the Petitioners are not of the same mind now wch they once were of in this Particular affair—

Nor is the third more to the point; for it only shows the Respondents have assum'd a power of Judging the hearts of those they there speak of— And as to the 4th we would only observe, that if this settlement was Legal, it will be very Difficult, if not impossible to prove it to be agreeable to the usage of the churches in this Government.

In their 5th Article we conceive the Respondts proceed on fallacious principles & take for granted propositions which cant be proved— as that if this Petition is granted, not only this church, but all the churches in the Goverm^t will be greatly prejudiced— Now where is the prejudice to the church as such if these Petitioners were dismissed— there will be a church still left, of a competent Number, Invested with the same powers & enjoying the same Privileges as they now enjoy— and if the Number desiring to be Dismissed be so small as is Represented the objection is still of Less wight— and as to Churches in General how are they like to be affected by it— no other ways than they always are by gathering a new church, when the members belong'd to any other before; and if this is of any weight it will always be an Objection, in that case as well as in this: & so there must never be but one church in a Town tho ever so Large— and the same argum^t may be always made ag^t erecting new Parishes, for the old must be hurt by the Loss of any of its Parishoners by an increase of charge on those that Remain— Again when tis said the granting this Petition would be a manifest breach of the Laws of the Province the Objection Implies that this court are to proceed only on Laws already in force that they are Restrain'd by them, & are only to put such Laws in Execution— which is not the case, the petitioners ask for a new Law, & apply to those who can make it— the doing of wch will no more be a breach of the old, than the making any other new Law & the same argum^t lies with Equal Reasoning ag^t making any new Law, for every Instance of that Kind in some sense alters those before in force— The Question therefore ought not to be whether the Law ask'd for will be a breach upon other Laws. But whether the End propos'd by it be good, whether it is R^t & Reasonable to be done, & in order to discover that we beg leave to observe that we take it for undoubted Truth in wch all Christians are agreed That the end of all Public worship is the Hon^r of God & the Edification of the Worshipers, that is, the Improvem^t of their minds in all christian Graces & virtues that these two are never separated, & therefore the edification of the worshipers always implies the former; That assemblies worship & care only means to attain the End. Viz the Edification of those who attend them. That this cant be done where the worship is not voluntary, for it must be in Spirit and in truth, free & sincere— That there is a great variety in the fitness of means arising from many circumstances particularly the diferent Capacities & tempers of Persons wch may make means very fit & useful to one Person, not so to another, and that in these cases the right of Private Judgment is to be maintained more than in any, for here every

man must Judge for himself, & tis impossible another can Judge for him, and that hereupon he ought to follow the Dictates of his own Conscience—That tis every mans duty to pursue this end, as tis the Noblest & highest that can be proposed by the fittest & best means—from these principles wch are indisputable, it evidently follows, that when a man apprehends he can obtain the afores^d^ end better in one Congregation than in another, he ought to Join to that wch he Judges the better for that purpose. & when a number sufficient to embody in Church order have the same Judgm^t^ as to that point they ought to separate & embody; it then becomes their duty for it is certainly a duty to use those means we Judge fittest, for obtaining the best end: & the omission of it is the omission of a Known duty, for which Conscience will Inevitably Condemn—he that denies this must with the same breath condemn the Reformation for upon these & such like principles the Reformed Church Separated from the church of Room, who condemnd them for it, for she mortally hated Separations– He therefore that will not allow of it in the cases here put, must if he will be consistent in his principles. Return to the mother Church from which the first Reformers separated— Now the civil Magistrates Ought to be the minister of God for good to the People, & where their greatest good is concernd ought to give them the greatest Countenance. If it be said tis enough for such separatists to enjoy their Liberty of Separating without being Eas'd of their taxes—the answer is that would be making them purchase their Liberty of those who enjoy their own freely & is not Liberty Equally every mans right who has not forfeited it? If so no man should be oblig'd to purchase it at a dearer Rate than his neighbour, and where such a separation is made from an apprehension of duty & in Obedience to Conscience it is so far from being Just matter of Reproach or blame to the party or of offence to others, that it ought on the other hand to Receive that Countenance & approbation justly due to those who have a sense of duty & tenderness of Conscience sufficient to put them upon the performance of it– The Respond^ts^ indeed say the Petitioners are a small number of Persons, who separate thro' unreasonable prejudice & here again they suppose that true wch we deny, namely that we have no Reason for separating—for it appears to us to be duty upon such principles & arguments as have been before mentioned & therefore think ourselves free from the just imputation of prejudice, & they have no Right to judge our hearts & condemn us for Hypocrites— Beside how easy it is to charge, & to Return the charge of unreasonable prejudice. Every party in Politicks as well as Religion is exceeding apt to think all the opposition to their measures proceeds from unreason-

able Prejudice, & if men would but open their eyes they must needs see things as they do and none more apt to run Riot in this opinion than that party which is uppermost, which always supposes it self in the Right— But here it seems in this case it is quite plain there is the opinion & Result of a Council— But we cant think it proper to trouble this Court with those affairs, a particular detail & Consideration of wch would be more than could be done in a weeks time, nor are they at all proper to be discuss'd here– and after all should it be done it would amount to no more than this—Two men differ each calls in his friend to advise which they do, but advise differently according to their Different Apprehension & thereupon each man follows & applauds the advice he likes best— In short whenever a sufficient number agree to go off from a church or churches, & Embody by themselves & by their outward actions or the General course of their lives in a Judgment of charity there is Reason to think them sincere in their pretensions, if they are willing to support the preaching of the gospel & other ordinances among themselves & especially when their Separation does not break up the churches they leave, we humbly Conceive, & with great deference & submission would say they have a right to demand of the authority, that protection, Exemption & Countenance whereby they may Enjoy their Opinions & Sacred Rights on as Cheap & Easy terms as their neighbours so far as the Circumstances of their case will admit—

The Sixth & Last Article begins with charging the Petic^rs with absurdity &c In desiring some allowance for w^t they have paid towards the settlem^t of the minis^ty &c– As to the settlem^t of the Rev^d Mr Odlin the Elder, tis out of the Question, but as to the other we see no such absurdity, for many Reasons, but especially considering this was purposely made as chargeably, even to us, as it could be, by making that a Public charge which might have been otherways defrayed, as to Other parts of this Article tis comprised in the foregoing there being no great difference between saying, men Separate from *unreasonable preJudice*, & saying it is evil in self, that it is of Evil Example & *draws others to do the like* differs little from saying *it would be of Dangerous consequence to the Churches*, all which is only beging the thing in Question —for we think it for the good of the churches, if by Churches we understand the People of the churches & not the Minister only, & if by good, is meant *their Spiritual Edification* & not the great point of maintaining the minister in Affluence & Ease—But this they say if done will be a leading example & we say all the better, if it be a thing which ought to be done, which is our apprehension of it, & that not only in this case

but all others so circumstanc'd; as to other fearful consequences mention'd they are merely chimerical: & Deserve no Answer– But here it is worth considering whether force, Compulsion or Restraint is a likely way to promote the Interests of pure religion, whether to compel to Conformity is a likely means Ever did or ever will Make a sincere Conformist, & what Interest is such a Conduct likely to promote, unless that of the purse of the parishioners & the more comfortable Subsistence of the Parson for the Larger the Parish, the higher the Salary is no false Logick—But those who are agst their neighbours Spiritual Benefit from Lucrative or frugal principles do not *do as they would be done by*, they do not Exercise that charity which *seeketh not her own*, and he is Effectually ag^{t} such benefit who prevents or Endeavours to prevent his neighbours from using those means he judges his duty to use. St Pauls Exhortation in this case is for every man to please his neighbours for his good to Edification—As to other matters taken notice of in this Article of the answer we cant think them of so much consequence in This debate as to need a particular Reply—The Building a meeting house or not is of no farther moment in this affair than as it argues those who have done it to be in Earnest & That they think it to be a matter of Some Consequence or they would not have been at that Charge— Upon the whole it is Humbly Submitted whether the Interest of Religion will not be more promoted— whether any such pernicions consequences are like to follow as are Suggested & whether the Interests of a Considerable number of good & faithful Subjects to the Government will not be advanced by granting this Petition? and Lastly whether the Consequences are not likely to be more pernicious which must follow from a Denial—

By– Sam^{el} Gilman, Peter Gilman } In behalf of the Petitioners

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October ye 8th 1744.

We whose names are under written having by chance heard that his Excelency & the Honble Councel heath sent a Survaier (1) to the Parish of Brintwood in order to Devide the same, and we being taking into the Lower Part and have bin at Grate Charge in Getting the Parish, We Pray that we may not be Conbin'd therin for we are sencible that their is not a sufficient number in it be at the Nessuary Charges of a town Parish on Preseint, but that we may have a years Liberty for consideration on what His Excelency shall se fit to Give us—

(1) In the original MS. volume, pp. 27-31, are surveys or plans of the proposed distinct Parishes. Ed.

Jonathan Cram	John Mudgett
Jeremiah Row	Thomas Mudget
Jonathan Eayer ?	Nichloss Smith
Jonathan Robenson	William Been
Moses Jewett	Jonathan Wodley
Jonathan Thing	John James

Petition of sundry inhabitants of Exeter to be incorporated into a new Parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain Generall. Governor and Commander in Chief In and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and To the Honble His Majesties Council and House of Representatives Convened in Generall Assembly

The Petition of a Number of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter in Said Province—

Humbly sheweth

That there has been a Minister settled in said Town of Exeter Contrary to the Minds of many of your Petitioners who Timely Enter'd their Dissents against it–

That your petitioners have hitherto (Contrary to their Minds) been compell'd to pay Taxes for the support of the said Minister (who carrys on the Publick Worship in the Old Meeting house in said Town) Which your Petitioners Humbly Conceive is unreasonable and Unjust–

That your Petitioners have Erected a Meeting house & Settled a Minister at their own Cost, and with the Help of Some Valuable Donations appropriated to the use of the Church Have supported the Gospel and Carry'd on the Publick Worship of God in the Said New Meeting house For about Twelve years last past with Peace and Concord amongst themselves—

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray Your Excellency & your Honours to Take the case of your Petitioners under your wise Consideration and Grant us Relief, By Freeing your Petitioners with their Estates, & such other Persons (and their Estates) as shall joyn with us (within a time to be Limited by your Excellency & your Hon^{rs}) From paying any Tax for the support of the ministry in the said Old meeting house for the Future; And by Incorporating us and Such Persons, and Investing us with Such Powers & Securing to us such Priviledges or otherwise Granting us such Aid or Relief as your Excellency & Honors In your Great Wisdom shall Think best–

And your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever Pray &c–

April 8th 1755–

Peter Gilman	John Lougee, Jr
Sam[l] Gilman	Edward Colcord
Thomas Deane	Nicholas Smith
Theophilus Smith	Jonathan Judkins
Daniel Thing	Joseph Mudget
John Lord	Jerimiah Folsom
Robert Light	Thomas Nealey
Josiah Gilman	Joseph Acres
Sam[l] Gilman. Jr	Jonathan Ambrose
John Phillips	Robert Lord
Daniel Gilman	Eliphalet Lord
Nich[s] Gilman	Stephen Thing
Thomas Lord	Joseph Stacey
Benj[a] Thing	Jon[a] Young
Abner Thurston	Benjeman Rogers
John Dean	Stephen Palmer
Nath[l] Folsom	John Leavitt
Summersbee Gilman	Joseph Smith
Josiah Ladd	Wodley Cram
Richard Smith	Edmund Lougee
Richard Smith, Jr	Nathaniel Ladd
Sam[l] Smith	Joseph Swasey
Josiah Barker	John Boyoden
Abner Dollof	Dudley James
Sam[ll] Dollof	Trueworthy Gilman
Joseph Dollof	Thomas Piper
John Robenson Jr	Elias Ladd
Peter Robenson	Daniel Gilman
John Haines	Nehemiah Gilman
John Gilman, Jr	James Thurston Jr
Widow Mary Gilman	William Harris

Province of N. Hampshire—
In Council April 9th 1755
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon[blo] Assembly
Theodore Atkinson—Secry.

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives April 10th 1755.

Upon Reading the within Petition, voted that the Petitioners be heard on the said Petition in the third day of the sitting of the Gen[l] Assembly next after the twenty eighth day of April Ins[t] and y[t] the Petitioners at their own cost serve the Selectmen of Exeter with a copy of this Petition and of the orders thereon to shew cause if any they have why the Prayer of the Petition should not be granted

Matthew Livermore, Clerk.

In Council, Eod[m] Die—
Read & Concurred—
Theod[r] Atkinson—Secry.

Province of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives, Sept 6th 1755

Upon hearing the Petitioners of the within Petition and the Respondents Voted that the Petitioners be set off as a Distinct and Separate Parish from the old parish in Exeter with the Estates they do or shall own in s[d] Town for the time being and for the future that when any person or persons shall come into s[d] Town to settle or any Person or Persons in s[d] Town shall arrive to the age of twenty one years such persons shall have the liberty of three months to determine to which Parish such Person will belong to gether with the Estates they then do

or afterwards shall own as afores[d] such Determination to be by giving notice thereof in writing unto the clerk of the new parish within the s[d] three months and in default thereof to belong unto the old parish— That the petitioners be exempted from paying any Taxes unto the old parish for this present year or to the support or maintenance of the minister in the old parish or any thing relating to the ministerial Tax that s[d] New parish have power to choose all officers necessary for managing parish affairs or to raising money for y[e] support and maintenance of the ministry, and that the petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly—

Matthew Livermore
Clerk.

In Council, September 9th 1755
The within Votes of the House read & concurr'd
Theod[r] Atkinson Secry

Answer of the Town Committee of Exeter to the foregoing.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governour and Commander in Cheif in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and to the Honourable his Majesties Council and House of Representatives convened in General Assembly.

We being chosen by the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter to represent said Town, and on the behalf of our Constituents to make answer to a petition preferred to this Honorable Court by a number of Freeholders and Inhabitants of said Town praying that they and their Estates may for the future be exempted from paying to the support of the ministry in the old meeting House seeing they represent in their petition, that a minister was settled contrary to the minds of many of the petitioners– In Answer to which, We humbly beg leave to reply as follows—

1st Many of the petitioners especially those that entered their Dissents against the settlement of our Minister the Rev[d] Mr Woodbridge Odlin were those that first invited him to preach in this place and were the Cheif Instruments of his being called from a remote place to labour among the people here, Who had he not esteemed their invitation to Him a call from God might now have been serving the Interest of the Redeemers Kingdom in a distant part, But the said Gentleman being Induced by the Importunities of the said petitioners and others in the Town accepted of the Invitation to employ his Labour among them for a considerable Time, of the expiration of which the Church & Congregation being sensible of the Infirmities of their aged pastor, tho't an assistant with him in the ministry and pastoral care of their souls would be for his & their comfort & having had a long

Tryal of our present minister by a considerable majority were well satisfied with Him and made choice of him in a way agreeable to the Laws of the province. The Town proceeded at their annual meeting march 28, 1743 To Chuse a Committee to agree with and settle the said Mr Odlin by a considerable Majority, And this Committee was further confirmed in their office by said Town, at a meeting of the Freeholders & Inhabitants June 13: 1743. Those petitioners that entered their Dissents being present and voting with the Town at said meetings, as to the Validity and Regularity of the Settlement it was agreeable to the Majority of Town & Church approved of and ratified by a venerable Council called by this Church–

2. Those who dissented against the settlement of the said minister among the petitioners are many of them such as rent themselves of from the Church Counter to their Covenant Engagements or Church Relation, & Contrary to the Platform of Church Discipline, and their setting up is disallowed off as being contrary to the Known order of our churches, and a Council of ten churches have in their Judgment upon the case declared their disallowance of those Brethrens withdraw as being very unjustifiable and reproachful to Religion.

3. Those petitioners do not profess themselves to be of any different persuasion from the Church they belonged to, but acknowledge they are settled upon Congregational principles and that they could hold occasional Communion with our minister & Church, and if so why not stated? What need of supporting a Seperate Interest to the prejudice of Religion and the peace Interest of the Town.

4. We would inform the Court that there is but about twenty five of the petitioners that entered their Dissents against the settlement of our Minister the rest of them consisting of such persons as have moved into Town or come of age many of which posses no Estates in the Town and some that were forward for the settlement at that Time have for what Reasons we Know not been prevailed with to Join with Them–

5. The Town has already been divided into so many parishes that we conceive it is unreasonable & what would render it very inconvenient & detrimental to the Town, for a number of persons that dwell in the midst of us (which have no propect of being better accomodated than they might be at the old Meeting house) to be exempted from supporting the charge of the public ministry, where they with their Families might conveniently attend, and we apprehend that we are not at present more than sufficient to support the charges of one parish with other public charges—

6. We apprehend it is unreasonable that the petitioners their

Families and Estates should be exempted from paying to our Minister, in that several of their Families attend public Worship at the Old Meeting House and there is no prospect of their being inclined to alter their Sentiments–

7. We concieve that the countenancing a Number of persons in setting up for themselves without sufficient Reasons that are not of different persuasions from those they went of from will be a tendency to the subversion of all Order in Towns & Churches–

Wherefore from the consideration of the ill Consequences of Countenancing them in their irregular proceedings the great Disorder & Confusion that may thereby be introduced into Towns & Churches, we conceive will have a Tendency to the destroying of all order and running all into the utmost difficulty, if their petition shou'd begranted. Things being in such situation we cannot but apprehend that fixing them on a civil Establishment will be encouraging unwarrantable seperations and destructive to the peace and Order of the Churches in the province–

For these & other weighty reasons that might be offered (which will occur to your minds) We humbly Pray. That your Excellency & Honours in your great wisdom would dismiss so unreasonable a petition which we conceive tends to the Subverson of Religion.

ZEB[n] GIDDINGE
JOHN RICE.

Result and advice of an Ecclesiastical Council, in Exeter.

We the Elders & delegates of the third church of Christ in Ipswich, the two Churches in Cambridge & the third in Glocester Convened in Council July 29th 1755 in Exeter at the Mutual request of the Pastor & the first Church in s[d] Town and a Number of the brethren called the New Gathered Church to Judge of all matters of difference subsisting between them in order to lead them into a happy Reconciliation & restoration to Christian Comunion and fellowship— After humble Supplication to God for direction in this Important affair and full hearing the parties came to the following Result:

1st Notwithstanding any Greivances the Brethren of the New Gather'd Church (so called) may have met with or apprehended they had met with from their late Rev'd Pastor and the brethren of the Church yet we Judge their manner of withdrawing Comunion from the Church was disorderly, And that such a conduct tends to destroy the peace and order of these churches, but we Apprehend some Charitable allowances are to be made in favour of these brethren Considering the Circumstances of those times and their plea of unacquaintedness with the order of these Churches.

2[dly] We Judge the Reflections of the Separating Brethren upon the late Pastor & the Other brethren of the Church (Calling them oppos-

ers of the work of Gods Soverain Grace &c) to be unbecoming Expressions, savouring of an uncharitable Spirit or of too great abounding in their own sense and opinion of things, and we should have been glad if they had been more full and Express in Acknowledging the warmth & Severity of their Expressions.

3dly With respect to receiving to Comunion the members of other churches who are under admonition: we declare that such a practice is utterly inconsistent with the order and peace of these churches, and that if this New Gathered Church (so called) retain any such members it is Just matter of offence to the churches of Christ, and in order to any reconciliation with these churches it is our Judgment that they deny such members any further fellowship in Special Ordinances till they are restored to the Charity of the Churches to which they respectively belong or regularly dismissed.

4^{thly} Provided the New Gathered Church (so called) shall manifest their consent to and acceptance of the Judgement of this Councill as above and their readiness to Practice agreably hereto, wee advise the Pastor and first Church in this Town to forgive their brethren whatsoever has been offensive in their late Transactions and not withstanding the Exceptionable stepps they have taken towards their being formed into a Church State, Yet that they own them as a Church of our Lord Jesus Christ and their Pastor (so called) as a minister of Christ and receive them to Christian comunion in all Ordinances and acts there of as they do other Churches.

5^{thly} And upon their Complying as above we recomend them also to the fellowship & comunion of all the other churches in the land walking in the faith & order of the Gospel: At the same time Earnestly recomending it to the New Gathered Church (so called) to pay all due respect to the churches of Christ, and to Exercise great caution that they avoid every thing which may greive or offend them: And now dear brethren of the New gathered church (so called) we have proposed such terms for your being accepted into comunion with the churches as upon a Mature Impartial weighing matters we think highly reasonable for you to comply with, and such as we Judge necessary, to secure the Interest of Religion, the honour of Christ, and the peace and Safety of these churches. We therefore cannot but hope that God will convince you of your duty here in And incline you to a hearty complyance herewith— And as to the Revd Pastor and beloved brethren of the first church, we cannot but hope, that considering the times which have pass'd over us, and the present Circumstances of your Seperating brethren, you will upon their Submitting to and accepting of our Judgment & advice forgive them in whatever has been by them Greivous or offensive to you & receive them, (together with the person whom they acknowledge for their Pastor) in their respective capacities and treat them accordingly by all propper acts of Christian Fellowship & Comunion, And now Revd Hon^{d} & Beloved it will be to us matter of Joy and thankfullness to see the people of God in this place thus united in holy fellow ship: And we Earnestly Exhort & beseech you in the bowels of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive one another as you hope that God for Christs sake will forgive you, and that you would Embrace one another as in times past in the Arms of Love & Charity, And that there be a friendly interchange of all acts of Christian, brotherly Comunion as occasion may Call for, And that there be a carefull avoiding Everything in Speech or behaviour, that may grieve or offend Each other, and if there should be some different sentiment as to some particular points, that there be a careful preserving the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Finally brethren farewel, be perfect be of Good

Comfort, be of one mind, live in peace and the God of Love and peace shall be with you, Amen,

Exeter Augst 1st 1755. Voted unanimously

SAM^{l} WIGLESWORTH,
Moderator–

A true copy. Attest Sam Cook. Scribe

Acceptance of the foregoing Result and Advice.

At a meeting of the New Gath^{d} Church of Christ in Exeter—August 4th 1755,

Voted– That we consent to and accept of the Judgment and Advice of the Council mutually chosen by us and the first church of Christ in said Town—as is contained in their result dated August 1st 1755—and sign'd by the Revd Samuel Wigglesworth as moderator—and we hereby manifest our Readiness to practice agreeably thereto.

Voted likewise—That a copy of the above be sent to the Revd Woodbridge Odlin, to be communicated to the first Church of Christ in Exeter.

Samuel Gilman, Daniel Thing, John Phillips } Ruling Eld^{rs} in behalf of the Church.

Province of New Hampsh^{r} } To the Honble His Majesties Councill For the Province of New Hampshire—

These certifie that the sum which was voted by the Town of Exeter to the Rev^{d} Mr. Woodbridge Odlin this Present year was for his Salary only, & not for any Arrearages due to him from the Town. But as there was something due to him from the Town at that time, The same is Included in the Town Rate for the Current Year and not in the Ministers Rate.

All which is Humbly Certified by your Hon^{rs} most Hum^{le} Servants—

Josiah Gilman, Robt Light, Jonathan Gilman Jr, Charles Rundlet } Selectmen of Exeter.

Exeter Septr 8th 1755.

Concurred, but care must be taken in the act to have Provision that the Town may choose officers to make the ministerial rate—and also to repair the churches reciprocally That all arrearages if any be paid by both as if not separated. The act will not Pass without these articles are Inserted.

Petition of John Odlin and others for power to call Parish meetings, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Cheif in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Honble his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened Dec. 6th 1763.

Humbly shews John Odlin, Josiah Sanborn and Saml Brooks, all of Exeter in said Province:

That by an Act Pass'd in the twenty ninth year of his Late

Majestys Reign a new Parish was incorporated in that part of Exeter Remaining, (commonly called the Town) after the Parishes of Brentwood & Epping were set off which was called the new Parish & Invested with the Powers usual in such Cases, and the remaining part of said Town was made a Parish & authorized to manage their affairs Relating to the support of the Gospel ministry, Separately and for that purpose was authorized to chuse assessors of the Parish Taxes Collectors &c which were to be chosen at the annual Town meeting for as to Town affairs there was no alteration by said act and this was the only matter that could be transacted at the Town meeting respecting said Parish ——— as may at large appear by reference to said act.

That your Petition[s] suppose it was the design of said Act that such assessors should be authorized to call such meetings of said Parish as there should be occasion for without any regard or matter to be done by the select men of the Town, but that power is not given (unless by a very remote Implication) so that as to any special Business to be done by said Parish as repairs additions &c to their meeting house they have no method of consulting and Determining but what is drawn with Question & Dispute upon the Doubt about calling the meeting nor can they obtain a meeting for the Select men refuse to call it and the assessors doubt their authority——

That there is a necessity of repair[s] their meeting house purchasing a Bell & transacting other Parochial affairs which are all suspended by the ambiguous Language of said act Wherefore your Petitioners pray the advisement of the General Assembly thereon and that by a Resolve they would Declare that the said assessors have Power to call such meetings of said Parish, if it appears to be within the Intention of said Act, or to put said Parish or remaining part of said Town under a new Regulation, & that no officer of the Town as such may have any thing to do with said Parish and that your Petitioners may have Leave to Bring in a Bill accordingly and they shall ever Pray &c.

John Odlin,
Sam[l] Brooks.

FRANCESTOWN.

[This town was settled about 1760 by John Carson, a Scotchman, and was incorporated 8th of June, 1772. ED.]

Petition for a land tax to build a Meeting house, &c.

Province of New Hampshire
County of Hilsborough

To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq. Captain Genneral and Governer in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the Honble his Majesties Council & House of Representatives and general Court Assembled—

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Sheweth:

That Whereas Frances Town in the Province and County aforesaid hath no Land left or laid out by the Original Proprietors for the Encouragment of the first Gospel Minister to settle amongst us we your Humble Petitioners humbly desire your Excellency and Honnours to make an Act To Collect or raise a Tax of a Penny half penny per acre for two yeais or more or less as your Excellency and Honnours shall see fit upon all the land within the Town afforesaid for the settlement of our first Minister and Building a Meting House your Excellency and Honnors Complience herewith will verry much serve our Intrest and Encourage the Settlement of the Wilderness: And your Humble Pettitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray—

Francestown Aprile 22d AD: 1773.

Thomas Quigly	Oliver Holmes
John Quigly	Asa Lewes
Thomas Quigly, Jr	Nathan Clough
James Hopkins	Samuell Nicolas
Robert Fulton, Jr	William McMaster
John Dickey	Hugh M'Gumery
William Lee	Robert Morel
William Starrett	John Carson
Samll Nutt	John Brown
Adam Dickey	David Lewis
William Holmes	Henry Mcfarson
Joseph Dickey	Charles Mellon
Benjamin Seleper	Samuel Gregg
Samuel Marten	John Hopkins
William Butterfield	Robert Hopkins
William Butterfield.	David Gregg
Nathan Fisher	

Province of New Hampshire–
In Council May 13th 1773–
Read & Order'd to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
Geo: King Depy Secy

In the house of Represent May 14, 1773.
On Reading the foregoing Petition Order'd that the Petitioners at their Own Cost cause the Substance of said Petition to be printed in

the New Hampshire Gazzette three weeks successively & that the Petitioners may be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the 15th day of June next—

William Parker, Clerk.

In Council Eodem die,
Read and Concur'd.

Geo: King, D. Secy.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Represens Jan. 14th 1774.

Voted that the Prayer of this Petition be granted that the Petitionrs have leave to bring in a bill for laying a tax on the Lands mention'd in said Petition for the term of two years of a One penny half penny an Acre Each year

Wm Parker Cler.

In Council Eodem die,
Read and Concurr'd with this amendment, that the Lands in said Frances Town belonging to the Purchasers of Masons Patent be exempted from the above mention'd tax.

Geo King, D. Secry.

Province of New Hampr } In the House of Represents Jan 16th 1774.

The Above vote of Council read & non concurred & Voted that the House adhere to their former Vote.

Wm Parker, Clerk

In Council Jany 19th 1774.
Read and nonconcurred.

Geo. King, D. Secry.

In the House of Representatives Jany 19th 1774.

Voted that the Prayer of this Petition be granted, that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a bill, for laying a Tax on the lands mention'd in said Petition for the Term of Two years of one penny half penny pr acre Each year. Provided it shall not Interfere with or make void any former agreement made between the Grantors, or any of them, & the Grantees of Said Francestown

William Parker, Clerk, Assembly

In Council Eodem die.
Read and Concur'd.

Geo. King, D. Secy.

FRANCONIA.

[Franconia, which was originally called Morristown, was granted February 14, 1764, to Isaac Searle and others. The first permanent settlement was made in 1774. Ed.]

Petition of John Wendell, agent, for the town of Franconia.

Province of New Hampsr } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governour & Commander in Chief in & Over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire and Vice admiral of the Same in Council—

The Petition of John Wendell of Portsmouth in the County

of Rockingham in the Province aforesaid Esqr in behalf of himself and as Agent to the Honble John Temple Esq. Sir Francis Barnard Bart., Thomas Hubbard Esq. and Benjamin Akerman unto your Excellency and the Honble Council Humbly Shews—

That your Petitioner & the aforementioned Gentlemen claim Lands by Purchase & as Grantees in the Township of Franconia, and that he applied to his Excellency before the Expiration of the Charter for a renewal thereof in behalf of the former Grantees who was pleased to grant him a Warrant to the Surveyor General to procure a survey thereof: who thereupon issued out Orders to Benj. Whiting Esqr as his D^{ty} Surveyor, to return a survey thereof, and the Said Whiting and others have made Several attempts for that Purpose at a considerable Expence to your Petitioner but has not been able to effect it by reason of impassable Mountains & has informed your Petitioner that one half of said Township is so mountainous & Rockey as not to be inhabited. And your Petitioner in behalf of himself & those he represents humbly begs leave to represent unto your Excellency & Honours, that they are the Only Persons who have been at any Expence upon this Service or have any way regarded the Township as worth their Notice, as also to pray your excellency & Honours to grant so much of said Township, as may be found Inhabitable on a survey thereof, to your Petitioner and his Associates, & so much of the Township of Lincoln adjoining thereto as will make a full Township on which your Petitioner & his associates may make a settlement of the same: or otherwise to relieve them on the Prayer of this Petition as your Excellency & Honours in your Wisdom think proper, & your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray—

JOHN WENDELL.

Portsm^{o} Jany 22, 1772.

Petition of Alexander Phelps and others, relating to forfeiture and re-grant of Franconia and Lincoln.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Govr and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, In Council

The Petition of Alexander Phelps and his Associates humbly sheweth that there is a Tract of Land in Said Province, Containing about forty six Thousand Acres without any allowance for highways &c, formerly Granted by the Names of Franconia and Lincoln, which Land has been hitherto wholly neglected by the former Grantees and thereby become for-

feited, which lands altho much broken may answer for a Settlement, for a Small number of Inhabitants—Whereupon your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency to Grant and Confirm to them their Heirs and Assigns the whole of said Lands, Except Six Thousand acres, butting westerly two miles wide, on ye Town of Landaff and Southerly five miles on ye Southerly Line of said Tract— Subject to usial & Customary Restrictions & Limitations and they as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

ALEX^r^ PHELPS.

Portsmouth, May 31, 1772.

GILMANTON.

[This town was granted May 20, 1727, to twenty-four persons by the name of Gilman, and 152 others. ED.]

Province of New Hampshire } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governor & Commander In Chief In & Over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire— To the Honble His Majesty's Council & House of Representatives Convened in General Assembly.

The Petition of Theophilus Smith Esqr Captn John Odlin, & Doct^r^ Josiah Gilman a Comittee for and in behalf of the Proprietors of the Township of Gilmantown in said Province,

Humbly Sheweth

That the Settlement of the Said Township has been long Retarded by Reason that no Provision hath yet been made for a Legal Taxation to be made & levyed on the said Proprietors to Defray the Charge of said Propriety which Have already arisen or may hereafter Arise in Settling Said Township—

That if such Provision be made by An Act of this Honble Court, the said Petitioners believe that a Settlement of the Said Township may be soon Effected—

That Such Settlement of said Township will be not only a great Benefit to the Said Proprietors, But to the Province In General—:—

Wherefore the Petitioners Humbly Pray That your Excellency & Hon^rs^ will take the Matters of this Petition Under your wise Consideration and Pass such Act or Acts to Enable the said Proprietors to Raise such Sum or sums of money by Taxing the said Proprietors (as they shall find necessary from

time to time to Defrey the charges aforesaid) as your Excellency & Hon[rs] In your Great Wisdom shall see fitt.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &[c]

May 15th 1760.

THEO. SMITH
JOHN ODLIN
JOSIAH GILMAN.

In Council May 16, 1760.
Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon[ble] House
Theod[r] Atkinson Secry.

Province of New Hamps } In the house of Representatives Feby 12th 1761

This petition being Read—Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted & have Liberty to Bring In a Bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Feb. 13th 1761
Read & Concurrd.
Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

GILSUM.

[This town was incorporated July 6, 1763. ED.]

Vote of Westmoreland to set off a part of the Inhabitants to Gilsum.

1766. Att a Meeting of the free holders and the Other Inhabitants of the Town of Westmorland holden on March the Twelfth Day 1766, Voted to set of the people to Gilsum that Belong to the North East corner of this Town from Walpole Corner to Keen Line—

A Trew Coppy as Recorded on the Town Book.

Isaac Butterfield } Town Clerk

Vote of Gilsum to set off the west end of the town.

Province of New Hampshire.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Gilsum meet at the House of Mr Jonathan Smiths in s[d] Town on Tuesday the 26th of August 1766 being meet and duly formed Mr Joseph Spensor Being chose Moderator to Govern S[d] Meeting Sd Inhabitants Voted to seet off the West End of S[d] Towne as far East as the Mountain Range—

A True Coppy of the Vote as it was then past

Test pr. me, Tobadiah Willcox,
Town clerk.

Gilsum Sep[tm] y[e] 1st 1766.

Assent of inhabitants of Gilsum to be set off.

Province of New Hampshear } Gilsum, July the 1st AD: 1768,

This may Certifie the Honerabell General Cort of this Provence, that

we the Subscribers Inhabitince of the East parte of the Town of said Gilsum Do Agrea and give our free Concente that the West pearte of this the Said Town of Gilsum shold be sett off to be one Intier Town Pearish or presink with a part of Westmoland and to Extend as fear East as is here Disscribed (viz) To Begin at the South Line of said Gilsum 80 Rods East of the South East Corner of Westmoland Ledg (So cald) and to Run North by the neadel 260 Rods then Makeing a seatt off 80 Rods East, and then Running North by the Neadel a cross the said Town—

In Conformacion hereof we Subscribe

Josiah Kilburn,	Henry White
Ebenezer Kilborn	Pelatiah Pease
Jonathan Adams	John Chapman
Medad Thornton	Obediah Willcox.

Petition for a new town.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governour &c in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire—The Honble His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said Province—

The Petition of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the Westerly Part of the Township of Gilsum and the Northwesterly Part of the Township of Westmoreland in said Province Humbly Sheweth:

That said Westerly part of Gilsum being seperated from the Easterly Part of the Same Township by a long and impassable Mountain almost thro the Township of said Gilsum Dividing the Same so as leave about one third part of the Lands of the Township of said Gilsum on the Westerly side of said Mountain, and no convenient Communication can be had with the Easterly Part of Said Township, so very necessary for the well Regulating and management of Town affairs; and the Westerly part of said Gilsum being too Small in Contents of Land for a Seperate & Distinct Town, Parish or Precinct, And whereas the Northwesterly part of said Westmoreland being that part of said Town Called Westmoreland Leg Lying at a Great Distance from and very dificult Passage to the main Body of ye Town and Inhabitants of said Westmorland and also Paying large Taxes for the Support of the Ministry & other Town Charges, without being able to Receive any Benefit or advantage therefrom And being adjoining to and conveniently Situate to be joined and incorporated with said Westerly part of Gilsum therewith to make one Seperate and Distinct Town &c.

Now your Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency and Honour that Said Westerly part of Gilsum and Northeasterly part of Westmoreland: (viz begining at the Southeast corner of Walpole thence running Southerly on a Straight Line to the North West corner of Keene thence running Easterly on

the Line of said Keene to the Southeast corner of Westmoreland Leg so called and continuing the same Line Eighty Rods East of Sd (last mention'd) corner thence runing North two Hundred and Sixty Rods, thence East Eighty Rods, thence on a North Line to the North Line of said Township of Gilsum thence West on the Line of Said Gilsum to the Northwest Corner of the Same thence South on the Line between said Gilsum & Walpole to the first mentioned Bounds that part of said Westmorland & Gilsum included in the aforementioned Lines, may be taken off from ye aforesaid Towns of Westmoreland & Gilsum, and be Erected made and Incorporated into one Seperate & Destinct Town, Corporation & Body Politick with all the Powers, Priviledges and immunities that any town hath or by Law ought to have in said Province or otherways as to your Excellency & Honours seam fit and as in Duty bound shall Ever pray–(1)

Dated Gilsum July the 4th AD. 1768.

Obadiah Willcox	Benjamin Wheeny ?
Samuel Hall	Joshua Fuller
Job Gleason	Joseph Mack
Joseph Spencer	Jonathan Pareish
Moses Field	Peter Hayward
Thomas Smith	William Barns
Ichabod Smith	Charles Rice
Eliphalet Darte	Nathaniel Darte
John Marvin	Jonathan Smith
Abel Allen	Jonathan Smith, Jr
Woolston Brockway	

(1) A plan of the proposed new town is found in the original MS., volume III., p. 77. ED.

In Council October 22^d^ 1768.
Read & ordered to be sent down to Honble Assembly
Geo: King, Dep^y^ Secry.

Province of New Hamps^r^ } In the House of Representatives Octr 25th 1768.

The foregoing Petition being Consider'd and the Votes of Each Town Shewing their willingness, also a Plan Produced,

Voted That the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a bill for Incorporating said Town Pray'd for the Bounds to be Agreeable to the said plan

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eodem Die—
Read & Concurrd—
Geo. King, Dep^y^ Secry.

GOFFSTOWN.

[This town was originally granted by the Province of Massachusetts, and was incorporated June 16, 1761. Ed.]

Petition of Archibald Stark for soldiers to guard the garrison at Amoskeag.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General, Governour & Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Honble His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened March the 9th 1747.

The Humble Petition of Archibald Stark of a place called Amaskege in said Province Shews—

That your Petitioner has lived at said Place for the term of ten years last past and has at his own cost Built a Garrison there of Considerable Strength & Conveniency by which the Place may be Defended against the Common Enemy with the assistance of a Competent number of Soldiers:

That there are upwards of twenty families that are settled there which have been Encouraged by your Petitioners Resolution hitherto to Stand their Ground & maintain their Settlements who must inevitably leave them if the said Garrison should be broken up— That the Situation is such as make it a place of Importance to be Supported being a Common Stage between Londonderry Chester and Pennycoke Suncoke & other Settlements & in the Course of Business there very Convenient for Travellers to Stop at, & proves a necessary means of Communication between the settlements as well as a Barrier & cover to many Settlements & families between that and Londonderry—That as your Petitioner has been at great charges to bring his Plantation there, to the Condition it is now in & laid out all his substance for that purpose (whereby he Conceives he may justly be Esteemed a Public Benefactor) it is not only of the utmost Importance to him that the Place be Defended, but also gives him some claim to ask it, and as his Fortune Depends upon it, and it may be *his* Life as well as others, He most Humbly Prays that a Competent Number of Soldiers may be allowed him to be Posted at said Garrison & to Guard & Defend him and others in Performing the necessary Labours of the Ensuing season, that their Husbandry may not be Dimminished and your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c.

ARCHIBALD STARK.

In Council March 9th 1747.
Read & Order'd to be sent to the Honble House.
Theodore Atkinson, Secy.

Votes at a town meeting in Goffstown.

County of Hillsborough } A meeting legally warned and
in Province of New Hampshire } held at the meeting house in Goffs-
town on munday the 15 Day of
July 1771.

Votted, Capt James Karr Moderator.

Votted, That the meeting be carried on by Poleing.

Votted, That there be a comittee chose in order to treete with Mr Joseph Currier in order for settlement—

Votted, That there be seven men chose for sd committee.

Votted, Samuel Blodget Esq
Capt James Karr
Jotham Tuttle
Job Dow
Thos Sherla
Alexdr Gilcrest
} be said Committee.

Votted, Fifteen pounds Lawfull money to Descharge the Debt of said Town.

Votted, To throw up the Road from Jonathan Martins, to Capt Ladds and except of the Road that was laid out by the selectmen last year, and that Capt Ladd is Satisfyed for the same.

Votted, That the Town will prosecute those that have trespassed on the ministers and school lots.

Votted, That the meeting Stand adjourn'd until Monday the 29 Day of July at four oclock in the after noon.

The Inhabitants being met according to said adjournment July 29, 1771,

Votted, To Receive the Report of the Commitee, viz

Samel Blodget Esqr
Capt James Karr
Jotham Tuttle
Job Dow
Thos Shirla
Alexr Gilcrest

Votted, That the meeting be Dismissed

A True Coppy of Record attest pr
Alex. Walker, Town Clerk.

Petition for a Presbyterian Society.

To His Excellency, John Wentworth Esq. Capn Genl Governour and Commander in Chief, in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, In N. England—And to the Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives In General Assembly Conven'd.

The humble Petition of his Majesty's Subjects, Inhabts of Goffs Town and Province affors[d]

Sheweth–

That your Petitioners most or all of them have been educated in the Presbyterian Persuasion and look on themselves as bound in conscience still to adhere to the same persuasion;

That your Petitioners generally inhabit one part of said

Goffs Town which renders their associating together for publick worship more convenient—

That your Petitioners have had some supply of preaching from the Presbytery to which we are connected and expect more from time to time, and soon to be in a Capacity (through Providential Smiles) to build a meeting House, and settle a Minister of their own persuasion.

May it therefore please your Excellency & Honours impartially to consider the Premises, and by your authority to enact that your Petitioners may be a distinct Society Cloath'd with Parish powers that so they may be in a Legal Capacity of Levying Parish Charges, and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c—

Dated at Goffstown,
November 2d 1771.

William Madole
Thomas Shirla
John Dinsmoor
Alexr Gilcrest
John Dunlap
Robert Sherly (?)
John Gillmor
George Addison
Saml McFarland
John Orr
James Marr
Mat Kennedy
Daniel Mcfarland
James Mcferson, Jr
James Mcferson
Thos Miller
Danell Marr
James Barr
Thos Kennedy
Robart Kennedy
Samuel Kennedy
Wilam Mcferson
John Mcferson
James Moor
William Dunlap
John Butterfield
George Cunningham
James Barr, Jr.
Antipas Dodge
Joseph Kennedy
David McClure
Jnº Little
Daniel Allen
Silas Walker
David Currier
Alexander McCay

Petition of the Inhabitants of Goffstown, 1772, relating to town disputes.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Capt. Genl Gov. & Commander in Cheef in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, & Vice admiral of the same. The honble His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province to be conven'd at Portsmo in said Province on Tuesday the 19th day of May Current.

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of Goffestown in the County of Hillsboro' in said province, humbly Complains—

That the Inhabitants of said Goffes Town at their last annual march meeting having some disputing on the business of the Day, after which the Select men published who were Legal

Voters, according to the Law of said province, after which the Votes were bro't in for a Moderator, The Votes were 25 for the hon^ble Saml Blodget Esq & 26 for Alex^d Gilchrist, on which said Mr Blodget said one John Pattie was not a legal Voter, (who had voted for said Gilchrists being Moderator) the select men said he was, but Mr Blodget insisted he was not, & that his Vote should be thrown out, wch was done. Then the Votes stood 25 for one & 25 for the other, after which Mr Blodget pulled a power of Attorney out of his pocket, & read it, given by one Job Rowell (who is since dead) to his son Jonathan Rowell a minor & who had never been rated, Impowering said Jonathan to Vote at said meeting & Mr Blodget insisted That said Jon^a had a Legal Right to vote in Said Meeting by virtue of said power which said Jon^a did & voted for Mr Blodget to be Moderator, wch turned the vote in Mr Blodgets favour & that said Pattie was not allowed to Vote, & the said Jonathan's voting & Pattie being deprived, caused different men to be chose Town Officers, than would have been, by which Means we humbly conceive we are much injured and deprived of our just & Legal Rights, Wherefore we your Complainants & petitioners humbly prays your Excell^cy & Honours to take our Case into your Consideration & grant us such relief as in your great wisdom shall seem meet, & your petition^rs as in Duty bound shall ever pray—

Dated at Goffe's Town the 18th day of May, AD. 1772.

David Currier	John Dinsmoor
George Hadley	Saml M^cfarland
Alex^r Gilchrist	Robert Speer
John Little	Willm Dunlap
Thos Miller	Thomas Shirla
Daniel Marr	Antipas Dodge
James Marr	John Clogston
James Moor	Daniel Allen
James Barr	Silas Walker
Ja^s Barr, Jr	John Butterfield
Alex^r McCay	Ja^s Fearson
Samuel Kennedy	Danl McFarland
Thomas Kennedy	William Fearson
Phineas Hadley	James Ferson
George Cunningham	John Orr
Robert Kennedy	David McClue
George Addison	John Dunlap
Joseph Kennedy	Asa Patie
Matt^w Kennedy	William Madole

In Council May 21st 1772.

Read & order'd to be sent down to the hon^ble Assembly—

Geo King, D^y Secry.

May 22^d 1772. In the house of Representatives— Upon Reading this Petition

Voted— that the pet^rs be heard on the said petition on the first Tues-

day in June next & that they serve the said Mr Blodget & the former select men with the copy of said petition & order of Court thereon.

Wm Parker, Cler.

In Council Eodem die,
Read & Concurrd.

Theodore Atkinson, Secry—

Copy Exa Theodore Atkinson Secry.

May 30th 1772. We the Subscribers bein present an saw Mr Jno Pattey Rase his name which was granted at his Request.

Thomas Saltmarsh
Jonathan Martain

A town meeting called.

Province of New Hampr County of Hillsborough } The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Goffs Town Qualified as the Law Directs, are hereby notified to meet at the meeting hous in sd Town on Wednesday the fourteenth Day of this Instant January, at one oclock afternoon, then and there to act on the following artickles

1st To Choose a moderator

2dly To see if the Town will chuse one or more meet Persons to be Conjoynt with Capt James Karr one of the Selectmen of this Town, to make answer agreeable to a citation from his Excelency the Governor and Council and house of Representatives to a petition of a number of the Inhabitants of this Town, who are praying His Excellency the Governour and Council and house of Representatives to sett them off in a Distinct Parish, by themselves, and that the person or persons chosen as above be Impowered to transact any Other matter wherein the Town is concerned at the General Court

3dly To see if the Town will raise any Monies to defray the charges arising in attending the General Court and how much

4thly To Chuse a Committee to Sash and glass the Meeting house

5thly To Chuse a committee to settle the accounts with Saml Blodget Esq and see whether the Town will allow him Intrest for the moneys Due to him

6thly To see if the Town Excuse Capt Alexander Todd from paying Rates to the Minister he being a Presbyterian

Dated at Goffstown January 1st 1772
To Saml Richards, Constable,

James Karr, Alexr Todd } Selectmen

Pursuant to the within warrant I have warned all the persons within named to meet at time and place.

Saml Richards, Constable

Goffs town January 15, 1772

A true Coppy of Record,

Attest pr. Alexdr Walker—Town Clerk.

Proceedings at a town meeting.

At a meeting Legally warned and held at the meeting house in Goffes Town on Wednesday the 14 Day of January 1772,

Votted Samuel Blodget Esq Moderator,

Votted That Sam[ll] Blodget Esq. and Sam[l] Richards be a committee conjoynt with Capt James Karr one of the select men to make answer to the citation from his Excelency the Governour and Council and hous of Representatives to a petition of a number of the inhabitants of this Town who are praying his Excelency the Hon[ble] his Majestys Court and house of Representatives to set them of a parish by themselves and that they are Impowered to transact any other matter Concearning the Town of Goffes Town

Votted Twelve Pounds Law full money be raised to Defray the charges arising in attending the Generall Court

Votted To Chuse a committee to sash and glase the meeting house

Votted That this said commitee consist of three men

Votted Capt Joseph Little, Tho[s] Saltmarsh, Aaron Wells } be said Commitee

Votted That there be a commitee to settle with Sam[ll] Blodget Esq

Votted. That said commitee consist of three men.

Votted Benjamin Stevens, Samuell Richards, Capt Joseph Little } be said Commitee

Votted That Sam[ll] Blodget Esq Shall be allowed Intrest for his money

Votted That the meeting be Dismissed

A true Copy of Record

Attest Pr. Alex[r] Walker Town Clerk,

Petition for an emission of paper money.

The Honourable Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire to be Conven'd on the first Wednesday in September 1786.

The Petition of the free holders and other Inhabitants of Goffs-Town

Humbly Sheweth—

That we your Hon[rs] Petitioners, perceiving the declining condition of our Country and of this our State of New Hampshire in particular the Stagnation of Trade and Commerce amongst us as well as the slow progress of Agriculture and Mechanichism, together with the additional Calamity of an enormous debt incurred by the late unhappy War;

Prevails with us your Honours Petitioners to present you, with these our Grievances as we apprehend they proceed Intirely from the Scarcity of Cash amongst us through the want of which we cannot discharge either our publick or private debts—Conduct Trade or Commerce, Neither can the needy purchase the necessary articles of Sustainance—As we presume every thinking person who has the care of the Welfare of his

Country at heart, plainly discerns the several causes from whence these our grieviances proceeded, as also the many Glaring and impending Calamities that are likely to ensue them (unless timeously remedied) we think it needless therefore to point them out to your Honours:

But to redress our Grieviances we would humbly pray your Honours forthwith to emitt a Quantity of paper Currency sufficient to discharge this States Domestic debt for which the subjects are oppress'd by paying the Interest, and to be a Circulating Medium of Trade within this state—Let said currency be put into Circulation by establishing it a Lawful tender in payment for all Contracts of a publick or private nature within this state—likewise by redeeming this States Securities for Domestick Debts, of every Kind and description:

And by requiring the possessors of these Securities immediately after the publication of said Currency to come and receive their principal, and all such possessors who shall not appear within three Months and receive their pay, shall forfeit their Interest, and those who shall not appear in twelve months, and receive their pay to forfeit their principal & Interest, And that it may Circulate the better we reccommend it to be made without Interest, And in such Bills as may be Easier changed for the benefit of Trade:

And furthermore we would reccommend to your Honours, that every method possible be taken by the Legislative Authority for preventing its depreciation and Counterfeiting—by suitable punishments—let the punishment of Counterfeiting be death without respect of persons and also their accomplices, and Exorbitant extortioners, and those who would refuse to take it in pay for debts, or contracts of any kind, within this State, be punished by forfeiting the debt or article exposed for sale—The method by which this Currency shall be redeem'd, and the time when, we refer to your Honours wisdom or some future Assembly to determine, Knowing that Time will Solve what we cant foresee, and as we dont think that either debtor or Creditor can be in any wise Injured by this our Plan, but on the contrary much benefited, we therefore desire to harmonize with our fellow Subjects of this State in their similar proposals.

Hoping this our Remonstrance will meet your Honours kind reception, we solace ourselves in the prospect of the future happiness which shall accrue from your Honours Compliance —wishing that the blessings of Heavens may always Rest upon your Honours just Resolutions, your Honours Petitioners shall for ever pray.

A Bank of paper currency.

At a Legal meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Goffes Town held August 21st 1786—It was unanimously Voted to have a Bank of paper Currency made and at the adjournment of said Meeting held Sept 4th Current, Voted that this their Remonstrances for the same be accepted. and To be presented by their Deligate as such.

Signed in behalf of the Town.

Alexr Walker, Clerk.

GOSPORT—otherwise Star Island.

[This place was incorporated 24th Dec., 1715, under the administration of Lieut.-Governor George Vaughan. Ed.]

Petition to be exempt from paying Province tax.

To his Excellency Samll Shute Esq. Captain Generall, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamp. &c.

To the Honourable the Council & Representatives Conven'd in Genll Assembly now Sitting in Portsmo in sd Province:

The petition of Richard Yeton one of the Selectmen of Starr Island upon the Isles of Shoales in behalfe of the Inhabitants thereof most humbly sheweth—

That the selectmen of the sd Island have not Expressed any contempt to the Authority by their omitting to make an assessment on the people thereof pursuant to the ——— (?) or warrant & therefore humbly prays that Your Excellency and the Honourable Assembly would pass a favourable construction thereon & also prays that Your Excellency & this Honourable Assembly would be pleased to consider the following pleas in favour of their being Excused from the Province Tax:

The people are very few in number & most of them are men of no Substance, live only by their daily fishing and near one third of them are single men and threaten to remove and leave us, if the tax be laid which will prove our utter ruine if our fishermen leave us.

The charge and expence which they are at in the support of the ministry is as great as the people can bear at present it having cost them but lately the sum of Two Hundred pounds for that end in building a Meeting house—which is not yet all paid.

The Government have here tofore encouraged them that

they should be exempted from paying Province Taxes whilst they Exprest their forwardness in so good a Service.

Though the Inhabitants have been very much richer and more numerous and their Trade greater than at present yet they were not then rated, nor the Inhabitants on the Island, in the Massachusetts Government. They live on a Rock in the Sea and have not any priviledge of right in common Lands, as other Inhabitants in the respective Towns have.

They have defended themselves in the time of Warr Agst the publick enemy at their own Expence both for forts and souldiers whose wages they have paid, and finally all other Towns in this Province have been larger and more numerous before they were taxed to the province rate.

I do with a Humble Confidence assure your Excellency and the Honourable Assembly that we shall ever express a Loyalty to his Majesty and a ready obedience to the command of the Government, but considering our poverty with the foregoing pleas in our favour, I do humbly pray that you will please to excuse us from the present tax, and when we shall be better capable shall readily bear our proportion of the publick charge —& So yor Petitioners shall ever pray—as in duty bound &c & Subscribes

Richd Yeton.

22^{d} April 1721.

Petition of Selectmen for remission of taxes.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governour and Commander in Chief in and over the said Province, The Honble his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Conven'd Jan'y 4, 1760

Humbly shew, Henry Carter, Richard Talpey and Charles Miller all of Gosport within said Province in behalf of themselves and the other inhabitants of said Gosport That the said Inhabitants have allways chearfully paid their Province Tax with Great Willingness and pleasure, so long as they were of ability and untill the four last years when their Circumstances in life became so low (being only a few poor fishermen) and the necessaries for living being Excessively dearer at the place of their aboad one half more than at any other part of the Province with the Great Difficulty of Transporting the same there togeather with their other great charge, Supporting the Gospel Ministry among them the fewness of the Inhabitants & their

poverty and their few within four years last past being Greatly Reduced they having had thirty Two Ratable poles within that time left them to serve the King or Removed to other places, Six of which had familys and their is but few very few young men among them and the neighbouring islands in the Mass–Bay altho Very short of our number have on accont of their poverty been Exempted from tax for Twenty years last, and altho Warrants from the Treasurer have come to the Selectmen of said Gosport to assess the inhabitants for their part year after year yet the select men did only the first year assess them and on finding that was not paid, the poverty of the Inhabitants and some Great Incouragement from some of the Honble General Court That on shewing forth the Difficulties Aforesaid the same might be Remited and since they have not made any assessm^t^ for Province Tax and that that was made was never colected, and now the same amounts to a Very Considerable sum and if their very poor and few Remaining Inhabitants should be Oblidged to pay the same it would Greatly tend to their Ruin for the few Remaining young men would remove from them rather than Pay any part to such back taxes as were due before some of them were Oblidged by law to pay any, and their would be none but a few old helpless persons left. And We would here beg leave to observe to this Honble Court that had we had a Representative in Court at the time the proportion was made Gosport might not have been Tax'd but altho we were always inform'd that We were allow'd the Liberty of Sending one member to Represent us in said Court yet we never ask'd it Knowing it would be a great Cost to the Province, More than any advantage of Tax that could possibly be expected from the Inhabitants, for which Reason we never made any Enquiry into that matter.

Wherefore We humbly pray the Consideration of this Honble Court on the premises—and that you will be pleas'd to pass such act or Resolve to take of the said Back taxes and that we may be exempt for the time to come, or grant such other Relief therein as in your Great Wisdoms shall Seem meet unto you—and then We from such Incouragement shall have Great Reason to hope that instead of our few becoming fewer we shall increase in our numbers and be able to pay Province Taxes with Great Willingness when we shall have it in our ability—And by being heard in this our Request We shall as in Duty Bound Ever Pray—

HENRY CARTER
RICHARD TALPEY } Selectmen
CHARLES MILLER

In Council Jany 4th 1760—
Read & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble Assembly
Theodore Atkinson, Secy.

Province of New Hamps. } In the House of Representatives June 5th 1761.

This petition being Read—Voted—That the prayer thereof be granted & that the sum of five hundred & Twelve pounds Eight shillings & one penny New Tenor that appearing to be the sum due from Gosport for the province Tax be Remitted, & that the Treasurer be hereby Intitled to Charge the said sum to the Province—
£512 ,, 8 ,, 1^{d} New Tenor—

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council June the 16th 1761,
Read & Concurr'd
Theo^{r} Atkinson Secry
Consented to B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for a Lottery, for protecting the Harbor.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honble his Majestys House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly conven'd the 25th day of June
Anno Domini 1766.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Gosport in the Province of New Hampshire and others whose Interest is Concern'd Shews

That the situation of the Road & harbour at Gosport Aforesaid is well known to be exposed to the Violence of Winds & seas in many cases & Events which frequently occur by which they often sustain much Loss & Damage which they would gladly Prevent it by any means Feasible:

That it has been Judg'd a Pier or Bason might be so contrived and Built as to be in a Great Measure a security in this Case and a means of great saving to your Petitioners & Preservation of their Property

That to make such a work Effectual a Larger Sum woud be demanded than your Petitioners by any means coud raise but as it woud be of very General Utility in its Consequences they flatter themselves the scheme for carrying on such a Building woud meet with suitable Encouragement from many other Persons besides your Petitioners & those who have connections with them.

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that they may have leave to set up & carry on a Publick Lottery to raise money for the End aforesaid and for that Purpose to bring in a bill containing such Limitations & Restrictions as shall be

tho't necessary but with such extent & Authority as shall be Sufficient to effect the Design & your Petitioners in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c.

Jno Tuck	Ja^{s} Ward
Henry Carter	Richd Langford
Richard Talpey	Wm Bickam
John Varrel	Saml Healy
William Michamore	John Puriell
William Holbrook	Saml Currier
Henry Shapley	Samuel Muchmore
Richard Talpey, Jr	Gregory Puriell
Henry Talpey	Saml Cutts
Daniel Rindle	Daniel Rindge
James Hickey	Geo. Boyd
Samuel Varrel	Nathl Adams
Samuel Varrel, Jr	Jonathan Warner
John Down	Thomas Wentworth
John Down, Jr	John Sherburne
Samuel Downe	D. Sherburne
Jeremiah Lord	Sam^{ll} Warner
Jos. Damrell	Titus Salter
Peter Robinson	Abraham Trefethen
John Walpey,	Hugh Hall Wentworth
Ambrose Perkins	Wm Knight
John Barter	Temple Knight
Wm Sanderson	Samuel Sherburne
George Walpey	Geo: Janvrin
Josiah Sanderson	Saml Dalling
Henry Shapleigh, Jr	John Flagg
Joseph Muchamore	Joseph Whipple
Elamuel Muchamore	James Stoodly
Benj^{a} Muchamore	Rich. Hart
Saml Muchamore	John Moffat
Arthur Rendle	Wm Whipple
Arthur Rendle, Jr	Jno Parker
George Rendle	H. Wentworth
John Rendle	John Penhallow
Edwd Bowdey	Thos. Bell
Henry W. Andrews	Samuel Moffatt
S. Mathews	D. Pierce
Jno Newton	Paul March
Stephen Pierce	

Province of New Hamp^{r} } In Council June 28th 1766.
Recd & order'd to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
T. Atkinson Jun. Secry.

Province of New Hampsh^{r} } In the House of Representatives, July 3^{d} 1766.

Voted—That the Petitioners be heard on this petition the second day of the sitting of the general assembly after the first of September next and that the Petitioners at their own cost cause the substance of this Petition and Order of Court to be Published three weeks successively in New Hampshire Gazett that any Person may appear and Shew cause why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted

M. Weare, Cler.

In Council Eodem die
Read & Concurred.
T. Atkinson Jun. Secry.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Augt 28th 1767.
New Hamps }

The foregoing Petition being Read & Considered appearing Reasonable & no objection made,

Voted—That the prayer of the petitioner be granted and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

M. Weare, Cler.

In council Eod^{m} Die—
Read & concurr'd—
T. Atkinson Jun. Secry

GRANTHAM—formerly called NEW GRANTHAM.

[This town was first granted, July 11, 1761; but the conditions not being fulfilled, it was re-granted in 1767, to William Symmes and 63 others. ED.]

Petition for a new charter.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire & Vice Admiral of the Same in Council—

The petition of John Sargent of Norwich in the Province of New York, Yeoman by his Attorney, Israel Morey Esq. unto your Excellency & Honours humbly shews:

That your Petitioner has setteld in said Norwich under New Hampshire Grants with a large Family, That being disatisfied with his living under the Government of New York he hath purchased the Original rights of John Hawks Esq, Rufus Wells, Rufus Fields, Simon Alexander, Elisha Alexander in the Township of New Grantham, with the sole Views of making immediate settlements thereon for himself and sons, but as he has not been able yet to effect it, and the charter being expired he is apprehensive he may meet with Difficulty, wherefore he humbly prays he may be quieted in his said Rights either by the Extension of said Charter to the former Grantees or being made Grantees in a New Charter of said Township, as your Excellency & Honours in your Wisdom may think best for y^{r} Petitioner and as in Duty bound he will ever pray

JOHN SARGENTS by
Israel Morey, his Attorney.

Portsm^{o} June 21st 1772.

Petition of Abel Stevens for the same.

Province of New Hampshire–

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commandr in Chief in and over his Majestys said Province of New Hampshire in New England and Vice Admiral of the same, In Council—

The petition of Abel Stevens in behalf of himself and other Grantees and proprietors of the township of New Grantham in the Province aforesaid, Humbly Shews

That the said Township of New Grantham was granted by Charter bearing date the 8th day of June Anno 1767, under certain Conditions of Culture &c. &c—The Form of Culture being particularly express'd to be performed in 5 years vizt, five acres for every fifty contained in each share on penalty of the forfeiture of every delinquent share—to be regranted to others and the Time aforesaid being now elapsed, and the duty above mentioned not being fully done on any one Right or share in the said Township—Whereby, according to the strict construction of the condition aforesaid, the whole of said Township is forfeited to his Majesty to be regranted as aforesaid—and the petitioner begs leave further to represent

That there are some considerable Improvements already made in the said Township, aud that they have been prevented from complying with the Terms aforesaid on account of their remote situation from any Inhabitants, and the Impossibility, for want of Roads of getting up provisions &c. for their necessary Support and subsistence, with such utensils as were needful to make the required Cultivation—The petitioners therefore humbly pray your Excellcy and Honours would not take advantage of the breach of said Condition, but that you would be pleased to Extend the Charter of said New Grantham to the present Grantees for such longer Time as your Excellcy and honours may think convenient to complete the duty enjoined by their said Grant—The prospect not being so discouraging as when they received the former Grant, the said Grantees are determined to proceed immediately to fulfill the conditions required by their said Charter, provided Your Excellcy and honours will be pleased to indulge them in their above said Request And they as in Duty bound will ever Pray &c.

ABEL STEVENS
In behalf of the
Grantees &c of
New Grantham.

Portsmouth July 4th 1772.

GREENLAND.

[Greenland was originally a part of Portsmouth. Ed.]

Petition of the Inhabitants of Greenland for priviledges—1705.

To His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq—Govern^{r} and Comander in Chiefe in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the same—

The humble Petition of John Johnson Abraham Lewis and Samuell Weeks on behalfe of themselves and the Inhabitants of Greenland, belonging to the Town of Portsmouth

Humbly Sheweth

That there are about three hundred & Twenty persons; men women and Children in Greenland who are Oblidged to come to the Bank to meeting, and the distance being five and six miles and the season of the yeare occasioning bad travelling as alsoe the danger of the Enemy makes it very difficult and Tedious to gett to the said meeting, or to send their children every day to school being not able to Table them abroad; Soe that your poor petitioners are almost deprived of publickly hearing the word of God or getting their children Educated with Reading and writing And your petitioners have desired at a publick Town meeting to have the Liberty of a minister and schoolmaster among themselves. They paying their sallary and to be Exempted from paying to the minister and schoolmaster at the Bank but there is noe care taken about itt by the Town who continues Silent in the matter.

May it therefore please y^{r} Excellency to Consider the premise, and to order as you in your prudent Judgment shall see meet relateing to the same whereby yor petitioners may obtaine the priviledge of a minister and schoolmaster among themselves as aforesaid, And they as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

John Johnson
Abraham Lewis
Samuel Weeks

5th May 1705

This Petition is referred to the Select men of Portsm^{o} to make answer and objections if they have any to myselfe in a months time.

J. Dudley.

Petition of sundry persons to be joined to Greenland parish.

17th January 1716.

To the Honourable George Vaughan Esq. Lt Governor of his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Honourable his Majesties Counsel—

The Humble petition of the Inhabitants That live on the Pattin adjacent to Greenland who are on this side of the line which was formerly Run between Portsmouth and Exeter begining att Walls Crick & running to Hampton bounds—Humbly Sheweth

That we the subscribers would humbly pray that we may be joined to Greenland Parrish because we there commonly attend the worship of God, which is abundantly more convenient for us than any other place of publick worship and have diverse of us been helpe full in building an house to worship God In there att sd Parrish.

We Likewise the Inhabitants of Greenland being a poor & small Parrish Humbly pray your honors to Grant that all the Inhabitants which are within the afore sd line from Walls crick to Hampton bounds May be aded to us—We therefore humbly crave your Honours Grant of these our request & yoor petitioners as In Duty bound shall pray &c.

Ebenezer Johnson
John Cate, } Assesors
James Berrey }
Nathanell Wright
Richard White
Jud. Allen
Samuell Folsom
Mikel Hicks
Joseph Hill
Walter Philbrick
John Eveny
Isaac Foss
Jonathan Weeks
Th° Letherbe.

Petition of Greenland for a grant of certain powers, 1720–1.

Province of New Hampr } To ye Honble John Wentworth Esq Ltt, Governr and Commandr-in Chief for ye time being, & to ye Honble ye Councill of his Majestys Province afores^d.

The petition Jams Johnson, Saml Weeks & Josh Weeks of Greenland in behalfe of sd Parrish—Humy Sheweth—

That on ye 15th Instant att a Parrish meeting Law fully conven'd we your Petitionrs were elect^d a comitte to address your Honrs & this Honble Board in behalfe of our sd Parrish for

some further liberty^{s} & Priviled^{e} to be granted in & amongst ourselves for y^{t} y^{r} Petition^{rs} have now only ye liberty of Raising money on ye Inhabitants there for ye support of ye ministry schoole & poor wthin y^{r} District: & ye Province Tax being Raised by the Selectmen & assessors of Portsm^{o} who living Remote canot posibly be apprized of ye perticular Capacity of ye several Inhabitants there—Whereby ye Tax is many times very unequal– Wherefore your Petition^{rs} Hum^{y} Pray, y^{t} your Honours in your Great Wisdom wil see cause to order y^{t} we may be dismissed from ye Bank from having any tax laid on us there; & y^{t} we may be freed from ye charge and Trouble of attending ye Publick Town meetings there & y^{t} a Comittee be By your Hon^{rs} chosen to Proportion Greenland in ye Province Rates & y^{t} ye same may be Rais^{d} in Equal Proportion by our own assessors & y^{t} Mr Treasurer be Direct^{d} to issue forth his Precept to our Parrish for y^{t} End & y^{t} we may choose a constabl amongst our selves to collect ye assessments y^{t} are from time to time made & y^{t} we may be allow^{d} ye Privilidge of choosing one assembly man in our Parrish to Represent us in Gen^{ll} Assem^{ly} we paying him out of the Parrish stock which Grant^{d} y^{r} Petition^{rs} shal as in Duty bound ever pray &c.

JAM^{s} JOHNSON
18, Mar. 1720–1 SAM^{ll} WEEKS
JOSH. WEEKS.

March 21st at a Council—

Psent ye Lt Govr Wentworth, Saml Penhallow Esq. Richd Wibird, Coll^{o} Walton Esq. Thos Wastbrook, Esq. George Jaffrey—

The above Petition Read, and Granted and Ordered that a com'ittee upon Oath take an account of ye Rateable Estate of ye District of Greenland by wch ye Proportion of the Prov. Tax, is to be Settled who are to make Return to this board, that the Treasurers warrant be made out accordingly.

Petition of Greenland for a Township.

To His Excellency Samuel Shute Esqr Capt Gen^{ll} & Com'and^{r} in Cheif & Over His Maj^{tys} Prov. of New Hamp^{sr} and to the Hon$^{bl e}$ the Council of s^{d} Province—

The Humble Petition of Saml Weeks James Johnston & Mathias Haines of Greenland Parish in the Town of Portsm^{o} in y^{e} Prov. of N. Hamp^{sr} afores^{d} for themselves & in behalf of s^{d} Parish, Humbly Sheweth.

That yor Petitioners are a district of Portsm^{o} and always have been accounted Part of s^{d} Portsmouth, and have paid Rates in s^{d} Town accordingly, and but very Lately have been made a Separate Parrish, and the Town of Portsm^{o} afores^{d} having obtained a grant of yor Excellency & Hon^{rs} for a Township,

Yo[r] Petitioners Humbly pray that yo[r] Excellency & Hon[rs] would be pleased to Ord[r] that yo[r] Petitioners, as they all along have paid their part of the charges & help to support the warrs against the enemy as inhabitants of Portsm[o] afores[d] That they may now Reap the benefit of the aforesaid Grant of Land in proportion wth their neighbours—the other inhabitants of s[d] Portsmouth or that yo[r] Petitioners may have an Equivalent of Land adjoyning to the afores[d] Grant, Granted unto us.

And yo[r] Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever Pray:

Sam[ll] Weeks,
James Johnston,
Matthias Haines.

Portsm[o] May 10th 1722.

Portsmouth votes relating to Greenland.

Att a Gen[ll] Town meeting held in Portsm[o] y[e] 4th June, 1705:

Where as y[e] Town of Portsm[o] payes £100 p Annum for y[e] support of their minister in s[d] Town— Att the Request of y[e] inhabitants of Greenland part of s[d] Town considering y[e] Distance of Ground y[e] number of persons & y[e] Danger of passing to Public worship,

Voted, That y[e] inhabitants of Greenland be paid out of the Town stock their proportion of s[d] £100 During y[e] Maintenance of an able Minister amongst them and no longer & y[e] s[d] Proportion be yearly, Proportion[d] by the selectmen for time being y[e] Bounds of Greenland to be on y[e] south side of coll Packers farme.

Pr Sam[ll] Keais, Town clerk.

True Coppy out of y[e] third Book of Records for Portsm[o]: foll. 12:

p Josh. Peirce,
Town cler.

15 Mar. 1719–20

1706. Att a Gen[ll] Town meeting in Portsm[o] y[e] 8th Aprill, 1706,

Voted, That y[e] Inhabitants of Greenland in this Town being freed from paying y[r] proportion of Rates for y[e] Ministrye fix'd att Straberry Bank in consideration of their maintaining a minister amongst themselves y[e] s[d] Inhabitants of Greenland having procured y[t] they may have 150 acres of land out of y[e] comons lying & being att Greenland: Bounded to y[e] Sow west End of y[e] Great Swamp & y[e] s[d] 150 acres to be taken out or Deduct[d] from w[t] may fall to y[e] share of s[d] inhabitants of Greenland of s[d] comons whenever there shall be a Division of all y[e] Towns comons y[e] s[d] 150 acres to be laid out by y[e] Lott layers where it may be most convenient for y[e] ministry & school for y[e] use of that part of y[e] Town.

Sam[ll] Keais, Town Cler.

True coppy from y[e] 3[d] Book of Record for Portsm[o] foll: 13th

Josh: Peirce, Town Cler.

15th Mar. 1719–20.

And That the Parish of Greenland be bounded upon the Great Bay by the farm of ye widow Jackson, Joshua Peirce, & Israel March: & so to Packers bridge, and thence to Joshua Hainses, Mr Cates & Edwd Ayras's farm and from thence southwesterly to Hampton bounds: and that these Present Inhabitants with the lands and estates they live upon & whosoever shall live upon them hereafter or build & Inhabit within the limitts aforesaid, shall pay their Parish Taxes to Greenland.

The Above is an Extract out of ye Council book pass'd by the Gen^ll^ Assembly ye 28th of July, 1714.

Attest.

Richd Waldron, Cler. con.

Petition of inhabitants of Breakfast Hill (1).

To the hon^ble^ John Wentworth Esq. Liut Govern^r^ & Comander in Chief in and over his Maj^ties^ Province of New hampshire to ye hon^ble^ the Council & house of representatives Conven'd in Gen^ll^ Assembly.

The humble Request of us the Subscribers inhabitants about Breakfast hill & owners of Land neare Greenland meeting house, humbly Desires, That whereas we are soe neare said meeting house & have paid our part towards the maintenance of ye Ministry there Ev^r^ since it hath been built, Y^t^ for the future wee may be by act of Government set of towards payment of the ministry to y^t^ place It being most convenient for us by many miles—& your Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

May 25th 1725.

his mark

Thomas O bery
Jo^n^ his O mark, bleak
Isaac his § mark, foos
James fooler desires to pay to Greenland & *Sande-bech* be a parish of themselves.

James Whidden
James Johnson
R. Wibird
John Wheden

(1) So called from the circumstance that a party of Indians in 1696, after an early attack on inhabitants of Portsmouth, and the slaughter of fourteen persons, hastily retreated, and stopped on the declivity of a hill, (now in Greenland) and took breakfast; ever since it has retained the name of Breakfast Hill. See vol. ii, Prov. Pap. p. 189, note. ED.

Petition for extension of boundary lines.

Province of New Hamp^r^ } To the hon^ble^ John Wentworth Esq. Liut Govon^r^ & Comander in Chief in and over his Maj^ties^ Province of New Hampshire and to the hon^ble^ the Councill & house of Representatives Conven'd in Gen^ll^ Assembly for s^d^ Province.

The humble Petition of Capt Samuell Weeks, Capt Joshua Weeks & Mr John Cate.

In the behalfe of the Poore parrish of Greenland as they are Impowered by said parrish to represent the same with the select men of Greenland.

humbly Sheweth.

That whereas by a vote formerly of the Town of Portsmouth (of which the said Greenland is a part) It was voted that Greenland Bounds should be on the South side of Packers farm (which supose is now Doctor Marches) and Whereas by a Vote of the Gen[ll] Assembly 28th July 1714, Its said that Greenland bounds to Packers Bridge and thence to Joshua Haineses M[r] Cates & Edw[d] Ayerses farm, The Same is verry Ambiguous Whether these are included or Excluded and alsoe Mr Edward Ayers at that time had two farms Southwest of s[d] Packers or Marches farm—& it is not mention'd which—And Whereas Cap[t] Langdon & the comittee that made the last return: run the line from said Marches farm to Edward Ayres Southwesterly farm, Exclusive of said Farm; which line comes to Northward of Berry Brook in the Rhoad to Sandy Beech, which is not above a mile from Greenland Meeting house, and Excludes fifteen families that live about Breakfast hill from y[e] s[d] Parrish of Greenland that used to pay there towards maintenance of the ministry & lyes most convenient for them to come there, The loss of so many families is verry Great & Grievious to your verry poore petitioners:

Therefore your humble Petitioners Humbly prayes (That considering your said parrish of Greenland consists chiefly in verry poore Inhabitants) and Containes a verry small Quantity of Ground; Great Part of said Parrish being not three Quarters of a mile Deep & In the Deepest or Widest place verry little above a mile—That they containe a small Compass of Grond & no probability of Increasing themselves—humbly prayes your consideration & order that theire line betwixt them and Portsmouth may Extend Due south from Marches farm to y[e] farm M[r] Edward Ayers Bought of the Adm[r] of Richard Jose Esq Deceas'd and thence South East to New Castle line which line will take in the fifteen families afore s[d] and suppose the line formerly Intended—But if it should seem meet to your hon[rs] to take these fifteene families from said Parrish it would occasion theire Breaking up not being able of themselves that remaine to support the charges of the Ministry with the other contingents on them.

All the Comittees that Ever made any returne relating to a Divissionale line being all of Portsmouth they made it as much in theire favor as possible by all Strain'd construction—Therefore if your hon[rs] se not meet to Grant us the line Desier'd, That then y[r] hon[rs] will appoint a Comittee of som other Towns (wholly Indifferent) to make and settle a line as they shall see

convenient, accordin to Portsmouth Town Voate, in 1705 and in Greater Certainty than hath as yet been Don. And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

May 19th 1725.

John Cate
Joshua Weeks
Ebenezer Johnson
Mathias Haines
Saml Weeks

May ye 26th 1725.

In the House of Representatives

read, and ordered that the Select men of Portsmo be serv'd with a copy of the petition and they to notifie the town of Portsmouth, To Appeare the second day of the setting of the next Genll Assembly to show cause (if any they can) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted.

James Jeffry, Clr. Assm

In coun[l] Eodm die.

Read and concurred

Richd Waldron

Petition relating to tax warrant.

Province of New Hampr } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honble his Majesties Councill and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened —Jan. 12th 1763.

Humbly Shews—James Bracket & Simon Dearborn both of Greenland in said Province yeomen and two of the selectmen of said Greenland for the year 1762 the Maj. part for themselves & in behalf of the Inhabitants of said Greenland that the selectmen of said Greenland for said year Raised a Tax on the said inhabitants and gave a list thereof to Joseph Pickerin Constable of said Greenland for said year with a warrant, and the hands of the Majour part of the said selectmen, in consequence thereof the said constable hath made distress on sundry of the said Inhabitants of said Greenland who refused to pay their Respective Taxes and for which sundry actions are brot against him to the Inferior court to be held in March next, and on examining the warrant aforesaid, it appears that the Selectmen have neglected to seal the same, which is thought necessary by Law, and if so will greatly hurt said Inhabitants, for altho most of them may not dispute it, yet there are many that do & so pay no Tax this year, Besides bringing a great charge on the said Inhabitants for the suits allready commenced & others that may be, wherefore the Petitioners as

aforesaid Humbly pray the advisement of this Honble Court on the Premises—and that you will be pleased to pass such Order thereon as to make the said Warrant good & Valid The want of seals notwithstanding or grant such other Relief thereon as to you shall seem meet. And your petitioners as aforesaid shall as in duty bound ever pray.

JAMES BRACKETT, SIMEON DEARBON } Selectmen of Greenland

Province of New Hamps^r } In the house of Representatives Jany 19, 1763. This petition being Read

Voted That they be heard thereon on fryday next, & that they Cause the sundry persons who prosecuted the constable for Illegally making Distraint to be notified thereof that they may be present if they see cause.

A. Clarkson clerk.

In council Eod^m Die.
Read & concurr'd.
T. Atkinson Jr Secry.

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Jany 21, 1763

The party being heard on the within Petition— Voted & Resolved that the Warrant Referr'd unto in the within Petition is a good & Lawfull Warrant, the want of seals notwithstanding, and also resolved that all the warrants given by any selectmen or assessors singly or conJunctly within this Province for the Collecting of any Rates or Taxes for the year 1762 shall be Looked upon and accounted legal and Valid the want of seal or Seals notwithstanding

H. Sherburne Speaker.

In Council Jany 22^d 1763

Read & concurr'd with this addition (viz), That if the Plaintiffs mentioned in the within Petition, shall withdraw their suits & not prosecute them, that in that case no complaint be Receiv'd for cost in such actions from the constable or other Defendant in any of the actions aforesaid

T. Atkinson, Junr Secry.

Province of New Hampr } In the house of Representatives Jany 25th 1763.
Read and Concurrd.

H. Sherburne Speaker
Consented to B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for representation in the General Assembly.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Capt. Gen^ll and Commander in cheif in and over his Maj^tles Province of New Hampshire, the hon^ble the councill & house of Representatives conven'd in Gen^ll Assembly.

The humble Petition of Capt Joshua Weeks Ebenez^r Johnson & Matthias Haines, Select men for the parrish of Greenland in s^d Province In behalfe of the said Parrish, most humbly Sheweth—

That the Parrish of Greenland for severall years past since they have been set of from Portsmouth have not had the Bennefit of having a voat in makeing choice of any person to sit in the Gen[ll] Assembly, and therefore are humbly of opinion that they are much Grieved in not having any person to Represent them in Gen[ll] Assembly nor any Vote in the choice of any other:

Therefor y[or] humble Petitioners most humbly prays For themselves and in Behalfe of said parrish of Greenland That your excellencie & hon[rs] &c will as in y[r] wisdom you shall see meet to make such order act or Law so that your Petitioners may have the liberty of other Towns or precincts to have the choice of some one of their Freeholders to Represent them in the Gen[ll] Assembly & your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

JOSHUA WEEKS
EBENEZER JOHNSON
MATTHIAS HAINES

May the 10th 1732.

In the house of Representatives.

Voted, that the prayer of the Petition be answered and that his Excellencie be desired to Issue out a precept for an assembly man to appeare at the next sessions in the fall—

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass[m]

May the 12th 1732.

In council May 13, 1732
Read & Concurred
R Waldron, Sec'y

I assent to the foregoing vote, May 15, 1732.

J. BELCHER

GROTON—formerly COCKERMOUTH.

[Groton was incorporated 7th Dec., 1796. It was granted by the name of Cockermouth, Nov. 22, 1766. ED.]

Petition of John Hale and Samuel Hobart for a re-grant.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire.

In Council December 4th 1771.

The memorial of John Hale & Samuel Hobart, for themselves & a number of Others his Majestys subjects, Purchasers from the Grantees of a Tract of Land in the Province aforesaid of the Contents of about six miles square, which was

granted 22[d] Novemb[r] 1766, by the name of Cockermouth on Certain Conditions therein specified, and the said Grantees have not been able to comply therewith, for sundry Reasons—The great Difficulty the first settlers have undergone, for want of Roads through other Towns adjacent & the discouragement[ts] they have met with, by a long & expensive Law suit with the Proprietors of Plymouth &c and the time of settlement being now elapsed whereby part of the said Town becomes Forfeited & reverts to his Majesty

Your memorial[s] humbly Pray that they may be favour'd with a Regrant of said Tract of Land & further time to settle the same in such manner as your Excellency & Honours shall see fit, & to Exclude such delinquent Proprietors of the Former Charter as have not done their proper share of Duty, and upon the usual conditions and your Memorial[s't]s as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

JOHN HALE
SAM[l] HOBART

Memorial of James Goold and others about a Petition of Samuel Livermore.

Province of New Hamp[s] } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor & commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and the Honourable his Majestys Council, most humbly sheweth—

That your petitioners are Inhabitants in the Easterly part of Cockermouth that most of us have lived there a considerable number of years, with our families—that we have been at great cost & Expence in clearing and cultivating the land, building houses making Roads, Bridges &c all which we chearfully performed, and sundry of us have made such Improvements that by the produce thereof with a common blessing we are able to Git a comfortable support—That when we first Began our settlement we proceeded in a Regular manner having in the first place (most of us with the other proprietors) Purchased a Charter of his Excellency the late Governor of the Township of Cocker mouth, which Town ship sundrey years before that time had been survey[d] and Lay[d] out as by a plan by which we purchased said Town will appear and many of which Bounds According to said plan are plainly to be seen to this day, which bounds are Agreeable to the Late plan or map of the Province made by Docter Langdon and Major Blanchard, which are plainly to be seen to this day, & that we are all settled fairly & clearly within the old lines & Boundaries of said Cocker

mouth where we Expected to enjoy the Benefit of our Labour peaceably and Quietly, and with an Encorragement and expectation of having the Gospel settled amongst us & as Good and Loyal subjects to our King having as far as in our power complyed with his Royal Instructions with Respect to the settlements that we have made where we now dwell—And Whereas Samuel Livermore Esq has Petitioned your Excellency & Honours praying that the Westerly line of Plymouth may be Extended westerly to a place called Fletchers cornor which is a mile or more farther west than the antient & proper Line of Plymouth and which would be Takeing off a mile of Cocker mouth and is the Land where we all Live: If the prayer of said Petition should be Granted and by which means we and our Houses and all our Improvements would be taken off from Cockermouth, and by that Means we should loose all that we have in the world & we & our familys be Reduced to poverty, We Humbly Conceive that Granting the prayer of Mr Livermores Petition is only to Serve the Particular Interest of a few Individuals who are Interest[d] in the Common Land in Plymouth, Who cannot by any Means have any Just Right to our Land for they have already much more land than is Given them by their Charter without this addition, and Plymouth as a Town Do not appear to be Benefitted by the addition, and are not Desirous of any such Thing, and Whereas M[r] John Fenton appears to joyn with Mr Livermore in said Petition, by Consenting that it should be Granted setting forth that he is a patintee of Three Thousand acres in the Land Petitioned for &c, We humbly Conceive that they have been laying their schemes to gether in order to injure and hurt us and to Take away from us our Substance, which we humbly conceive we are Justly Intitled to by virtue of our fulfilling his Majestys Instructions.

No Doubt but Mr Fenton has a just Right to Three Thousand acres of his Majestys un Cultivated ungranted Land, but not any Right to our Houses and Improvements, any more than he has to our persons to be slaves to him—Wherefore we most humbly pray your Excellency & Honours attention & Consideration on this matter which is of Great Importance to us and that you would be pleased to Interfere and protect us in the peaceable and Quiet Enjoyment of our Infant settlement in the Wilderness and that you would not Grant the prayer of that Petition, nor put it Into the Power of Mr Livermore or Mr Fenton or any other person to Molest or Destress us and we as in Duty bound shall ever pray

James Goold,
Simeon Lovejoy
Nathaniel Ball
Ebenezer Melven
Thomas Nevens
Ebenezer Melven Jr
Jacob Lovejoy
Jonas Hobart
Thomas Neven Jr
Samuel Farley

[No date.]

HAMPSTEAD.

[This town was incorporated 19 of January, 1749. Ed.]

Petition for a Parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Cheif In and Over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, And to the Honourable His Majesties Council and house of Representatives in General Court Assembled, Jan 1, 1743–4

The Humble petition of the subscribers Inhabitants in the Province aforesd, Sheweth.

That the greater part of your Petitioners are Inhabitants of the Land in Controversie between Kingstown and Haverhill— That one part of us hold our Land of Haverhill and the other of Kingstown. That However the Right of the soil may be disputed, we are without Dispute of New Hampshire Government. That your Petitioners are at such a Distance from every Parish Meeting house as Renders our attending publick Worship upon the Sabbath in any of our Neighbouring Congregations Exceeding Difficult, and to many of us quite Impracticable. That we are therefore obliged to procure some person to preach to us or else to live without the Benefit of that Ordinance. May it therefore please your Excellency and Honours to take our case under your Wise consideration, and either Vest us with Parish Powers with the following bounds viz. Begining at a Crocked red oak tree standing in London Derry line from thence runing Eastwardly three miles on Bryants line Thence Northwardly to a bridge called Capt Ingalls Bridge thence westerly so as to comprehend the Dwelling house of one Jacob Wells from thence to the Corner Beach tree on Chester line and from thence upon London Derry line to the bounds first mentioned, Or If this may not at present be granted at least to pass an Act to Impower us for a time to assess and Levie Taxes upon the inhabitants within the bounds above sd for the support of the Gospel and other Incident Charges and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Subscribers.

John Hoog	Samuel Worthen, Jr
William Moulton	George Little, Jr
William Stevens	Samuel Watts
Peter Easman	Beniamin Philbrick
Michell Johnson	Jonathan Kimball
Hugh Tallant	Ezekiel Little
John Atwood	Jeremiah Eatton
Israel Huse	Sam[ll] Stevens, Jr
Nathaniel Harriman	John Johnson

William Eastman	David Heath
David Copps	William Heath
John Muzzy	Robert Ford
Joseph Stevens, Jr	John Kezar
Daniel Roberds	George Kezar
Daniel Roberds, Jr	Otho Stevens
Ebenezer Gill	James Johnson
Nathaniel Heath	Obediah Davis
Joseph Stevens	Josiah Davis
Daniel Johnson	Joseph Little
Thomas Croford	Moses Tucker
James Mills	John Bond
Zecheriah Johnson	Jonathan Bond
William Hancock	Daniel Hebberd
James Heath	James Graves
Steven Emerson	James Cook
Beniamin Emerson	Jonathan Gile
Caleb Heath	Samuel Stevens

In the House of Representatives Apr 18th 1744. The within Petition Read and Voted that the Petitioners (at their own charge) serve the Selectmen of Kingston with a Coppy of this Petition and the Votes thereon that they may appeare the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the first day of May next.

James Jeffrey Cler. Assm

Vote of Kingston, setting off certain persons for a new Parish, &c.

Prov. of New Hamp.

At a Legall meeting of the Inhabitants & freeholders of Kingstown held the 24th of September, 1746,

1st Levt John Swett was chosen moderator of that meeting.

2d Voted, That we do hereby as far as in us lieth sett off

Moses Tucker	John Straw
Israel Huse	Jonathan Colby
James Huse	Daniel Hibbard
James Graves	Daniel Kidd
John Bond	Jacob Gurdy
Jacob Wells	David Straw
Meshach Gurdy	Reuben Clough
John Straw Jr	Israel Huse, Jr
William Straw	John Pressey
Philip Wells	Benjamin Tucker
Jacob Tucker	John Hogg &
Joseph Dow	Orlando Colby

of Kingstown above 'sd with a certain Tract of Land in sd town for a Distinct Parish or Precinct Bounded as followeth viz: begining at the Beach tree which is the Dividing Boundary between London Derry and Chester sd Tree standing on ye west line of sd Kingstown and Running Southerly on sd Kingstown said Line as heretofore settled between sd London Derry & sd Kingstown to the Islands Pond (so called) then Running East and B South three miles. Then Northerly Till a North & B West Course will strike sd Kingstown

line where it crosses the mill Brook (so called) as heretofore settled between s[d] Kingstown & s[d] Chester & from thence viz where s[d] Line Crosses s[d] mill Brook to run Southerly on s[d] line to the Beach tree first mentioned.

This is a true copy taken out of Kingstown Book of Records.

Attest

Jed. Philbrick, Town Clerk.

Petition of Richard Hazzen, &c., about support of Rev. James Cushing.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour & Commander in Cheif in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England & to the Hon[bl]e his Majesties Councill & House of Representatives in Generall Court assembled at Portsmouth for s[d] Province, May 1748.

Humbly Shews.

Richard Hazzen for himself and in behalfe of the Inhabitants of that Part of Haverhill district commonly called Timberlane,

That the Inhabitants of said Timberlane have for the greatest part of fifteen years past at a verry great cost and charge hired a minister to preach amongst them and at the same time been Excused from paying any thing towards the support of the Rev[d] Mr James Cushing.

That the Rev[d] Mr Cushings Hearers (Exclusive of said Timberlane) live about two thirds of them on the North Side of the Boundary Line and in this Province and the other third on y[e] other side on which side lyes also the greatest part of his Personage or Glebe Lands

That at a meeting of the District in November last Pursuant to the selectmens warrant It was agreed & Voted that the inhabitants living on this side of y[e] line (meaning those who lived out of Timberlane limits) should pay the Rev[d] Mr Cushing Two Hundred pounds for his support this year, Old Tenor on consideration of the Depreciating of the money &c which would have been a small matter more than what they paid last year.

That some time afterwards at a Legall meeting of the afore s[d] Districts, The inhabitants of Timberlane were by vote set off from Mr Cushings Parish and near the same lines which a committee Sent By your Excellency & the Hon[bl]e Council thought proper to be done as appears by their Report.

That notwithstanding the meaning & intent of the afore s[d] Vote respecting M[r] Cushings Support by which the Inhabitants of Timber lane ought to have been excused from paying any thing thereto & after they were set off from Mr Cushings

Parish as much as the District had a power to do, The assessors have rated us to Mr Cushing and thereby made their own Taxes much less than last year, & taken away our money from us which we should have had to pay our own minister

That we have been thereby necessitated to make a Rate amongst Our selves to pay our minister but as we had no legall power to do it some refuse to pay, so that we are now in a verry deplorable Condition unless your Excellency & Honours will Interpose on our behalfe.

We therefore Humbly & Earnestly request your Excellency & Honours to compassionate our circumstances & give Such Orders that we may be excused from paying to ye Rev^d^ Mr James Cushing & at the same time that he may not be cheated and defrauded of his honest due, & that we may be Impowered to raise a Tax amongst our Selves to pay our own minister or that you will afford us Such other Relief as to your Excellency & Honours shall think best for us.

And for your Excellency & Honours your Humble petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

RICHARD HAZZEN

for himself & in behalf of ye Inhabitants of Timberlane.

May 12th 1748.

Petition of Edward Flint and others to be annexed to Hampstead.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England & to the Hon^bl^e^ the Councill of said Province,

Humbly Shews,

The petition of Edward Flynt, Samuel Stevens & others the Subscribers that your petitioners Liveing in that part of Haverhill District commonly called Timberlane have always together with the other Inhabitants chearfully paid their Taxes & when a petition was preferr^d^ by the said Inhabitants to your Excellency & Honours to be incorporated into a Township, your petitioners signed ye said petition & hoped that when the Township was incorporated that not only your petitioners Houses but their estates also would have been taken within ye charter being much more for the Interests of your petitioners than to be put any where Else.

But so it is may it please your Excellency & Honours that by the Charter of Hampstead lately Granted, your petitioners Estates are so Divided that near one half lye within the Town of Hampstead & the other half is left out notwithstanding

their Lands have for many years past been fenc[t] in and improved & being so Divided & Split by the said Lines it is to the verry great damage of your petitioners

We therefore earnestly request your Excellency & Honours to annex our whole lands to Hampstead according to our first petition.

And for your Excellency & Honours your Humble petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

EDW[d] FLINT
SAM[l] STEVENS
NEHEMIAH STEVENS
DAVID STEVENS
SAM[a] STEVENS
W[m] STEVENS
JOSEPH STEVENS

Hampstead,
February 14th 1749.

HAMPTON and HAMPTON FALLS.

[Hampton belonged originally to Massachusetts, and was settled by people from that Colony, in 1638. In 1680, it was separated from Massachusetts and joined to New Hampshire. Hampton Falls was incorporated as a Parish in 1712. ED.]

Petition of Selectmen about taxes.

To the Honorable y[e] Lieut Governer and Counsell &c: with the Assembly now sitting att New Castle

The humble petition of us y[e] Select men of Hampton Sheweth

That y[r] petitioners by warrant from y[e] Treasurer to make an assessment of 230 [lbs] and y[t] through a mistake in making y[e] Rate have made it 04 [lb] short of s[d] Sums and y[e] time being now out according to s[d] Warrant and yo[r] petitioners not having power to Asses y[e] Remainder Humbly pray yo[r] Honors to impower y[e] Treasurer to Grant a warrant to us y[e] sd select men & Commissio[nd] and yo[r] petition[rs] will forthwith Make y[e] Rate for y[e] Remainder, & yo[r] petitioners will by y[e] blessing of God never be wanting to pray for your Hon[rs]

JOHN MOULTON
ABRA. GREEN
JN[o] DEERBARNE
PETER WEARE
THOS PHILBRICK
PHILEMON DALTON
JN[o] TUCKE
Selectmen of Hampton

May y[e] 20th 1695.

Voated, That y[e] Selectmen are Impowered to make assessment on

their Inhabitants according to there petition for adjusting that Rate past by ye Assemble

John Pickerin, Clark

Past by the Councile
Wm Bed ford Dept Secry

Petition of Abraham Drake and others about a tract of land in Kingstown.

To his Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq. Capt. Generall and Governour in Cheif in & over Her Majestys province of the Massatusetts Bay & New Hampshi^r^ &c

The petition of ye selectmen of ye Town of Hampton in New Hampshire in behalf of ye freeholders & Comissioners of ye s^d^ town Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioners this last sumer had Judgment given in favour of Mr Peter Wear at two Courts the Charge where of cost them more than 50 pounds, for not laying out a Tract of land at a place formerly called New-plantation since called Kingstown which s^d^ Grant was to John Marston who sold all his Rights in Hampton unto one Deacon Page more than 40 years since which s^d^ Page hath ever since enjoyed his Rights & devisions of lands in Hampton above s^d^ untill this last sumer ye said Peter Weare produced a pretended deed of conveyance from ye s^d^ John Marston Writen & Signed at Andover & ye same day acknowledged by his Father Nathaniell Wear Esq. in New Hampshire by s^d^ John Marston, which Deed is much to be suspected for a fraudilent Deed, for y^t^ if ye said John Marston were living at ye time of ye Date of s^d^ Deed which is much questioned, yett certainly he was dead before any such instruments appeared, and it is farther evident by testimonies of ye Reaverent Mr Barnard minister of ye town togeather with other principle men of Andover, y^t^ ye s^d^ John Marston by Reason of age had not been able for some years before his death to go to ye publick worship not of a disposeing mind & memory much less able to travill in so short a time to acknowledge a deed in New Hampshire when there were so many justices in his way thether, besides severall other testimoneys who are of ye s^d^ John Marstons neer Relation who heard him say y^t^ Mr Wear had been at him to sell him a piece of land at New plantation, but he would not do it. Wee therefore lay this our humble petition before your Excellency, together with ye Above mentioned Evidences and pray y^t^ as ye said Nathaniell Weare Esq is in publicke place of trust, and whose signing an acknowledgment is of more vallue than two creadable Witnes & without which no Deed by Law can be executed nor Re-

corded, we pray y^t ye said Esq. Weare may answer possitively whether he ever saw ye said John Marston of Andover in this province of New Hampshire since ye Date of ye said Deed made to his son Peter Wear by s^d Marston, that so ye truth may appear, it being ye truth of all Testimony or Record y^t makes them vallued, and ye said Esq. Wear hath been summoned to ye Court & paid his charge, yet will Say nothing but puts to prove possetively y^t Marston did not grant to his son Peter or y^t he was not in ye province of New Hampshire to acknowledge it &c. The proceeding to ye finding out ye truth wee have no cause to dought but your Excellency will Justly do & your petitioners shall ever pray as in duty bound

ABRAHAM DRAKE
JOIIN MOULTON
PETER JOHNSON
SAMUEL DOW
} Selectmen

Dated 13th of November 1708.

Certificate of Nathaniel Weare.

16 November 1708.

Nathl Weare Esq. being Exam^d before his Excellency the Governor and Council Whether he took the acknowledgment of one John Marston, formerly of Andover dec^d to a Deed of Conveyance from the said Marston to Peter Weare dated the thirteenth day of May one thousand seven hundred and seven and now produced in court, and where the said Marston was when he acknowledged the said Deed and at What time.

Mr Weare Answered that he being at Andover the 13th day of May 1707 he went to the House of the said John Marston about noon and exhibited the above said Deed to the said John Marston since dec^d he being then in his Right senses and the said Marston did then & there of his own free & voluntary Will acknowledge the same to be his act and Deed.

Exam^d before publick Councill the 16th Novr 1708.

Chas. Story, Secretary.

Certificate of Jabez Smith.

Ham^on May 17th 1721.

Mr Greenough Sir. We Received y^r Order of Assembly & in Obedience to s^d Order We Gave Notis to ye Freeholders In said town to meet this Day att three of ye Clock After Noon & accordingly thay did meet & the Order of Assembly was red to them & ye Constable Desired them to Bring in there Vots, but thay Brought none in.

Sir I am yours to Sarve,

Jabez Smith in behalf of ye Select men.

Petition for leave to make a separate tax.

To His Honour John Wintworth Esq. Lt Governour and Comander in Chief in & over his majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Honorable the Members of the Councill & Representatives Now sitting in Generall Assembly.

The humble address & Petition of his Majesties Loyall and Deutifull Subjects Inhabitence of the falls or South Parish in hampton most humbly sheweth

That as there was formerly an act past that the Whole Town of Hampton should Raise thair Province & Ministars Rates to gether, wee of the falls parish finding many disadvantages in not having power to raise those Rates singly by our selves and in particular wee want to make an alteration & addition to our Ministers Sallery which wee cannot well doo by reason of our being obliged to Raise our Rates in Generall to gether in the whole town we have no Power to Raise for any addition by our selves.

Wee therefore Pray that wee may be freed from that act and may have power given us in our Parish to raise our province and ministry Rates by our selves, that whatsoever wee have or shall agree with our minister for—wee may have power to perform and doo therein as the Law gives power to a town, as in all other Rates wee are single by our selves wee may be so in the province and ministers Rates likewise.

As in your wisdom you shall think fit and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

In behalf and by order of the Inhabitants of s^d^ Parish.

NATH^l^ WEARE
ICHABOD ROBIE } Selectmen.
NATH^l^ HEALEY

In Council Apr^l^ 11th 1726

Voted, upon reading ye above Petition That ye selectmen of ye first Parish of Hampton be served forthw^th^ with a copy of s^d^ Petition by the Petitioners & be notifyed that the hearing upon s^d^ Petition is appointed to be on Thursday next at 10 oclock A. M. that they may convene the s^d^ Parish to chuse an Agent or agents to appear before the Genl Assem^ly^ at ye s^d^ time to shew cause if any they have why the Prayer of the s^d^ Petition should not be granted.

Richd Waldron, Cler. Con.

Eodem Die

In the house of Representatives.

The within Petition was Read and the Vote thereon and the vote concured with this amendment (that whereas in the within vote for the first p'ish to be Notified to appeare next thursday) Voted—That the selectmen of ye first p'ish in Hampton be served with a coppy of the Petition and to appeare (& shew cause if any they have) why the prayer of the Petitioner may not be granted the next sitting of the Gen^ll^ Assm, the second day of theire sitting

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m^

In Coun. Eod. Die
Concurr'd wth the amendm^t^
Richd Waldron, Clr. con.

Province of New Hampshire, 9^br^ 23^d^ 1726
After hearing the deputies for each of the Parishes in Hampton relating to the Petition In the house of Representatives 9^br^ 23^d^ 1726,
Voted—That the prayer of the petition be granted so farr, viz. That the south parrish of Hampton called the falls parrish be impowered fully & Seperately by themselves to make a Rate on all p'sons & Estates within said p'ish for the payment of theire ministers sallary at all Times hereafter, and be utterly free from haveing anything to do with the first p'ish, or the first p'ish in Hampton with them, relateing to the ministers sallary.

James Jeffry Clr. Ass^m^

Read and Concurred.

In Coun Eod. die
Read & Concurred
R. Waldron cler. con

Request relating to highways.

Request being made to us the select men of Hampton falls or south Parish by sundry of the Inhabitants of the northwest part of s^d^ Parish
Theire Request to us is that wee would perfect the highways where theire was Land Left for high ways between the Ranges of Lots in the first West devision so called and parfect other high ways where thay are wanting to be perfected accordingly we have dune as follows
The first high way wee Layd out is begining at the deviding Line between Hampton and Kings town, & so Runing Esterly at the north Eand of the Lots in the 5th Rang in the first west devision, so called s^d^ high way to be 2 Rods wide northerly from the bounds of s^d^ Lots through s^d^ division and from thence as the way now goeth to John Prescuts and from thence as the way now Goeth to the top of the hill by Jonathan Sweets s^d^ highway to be 2 Rods wide and from thence as the way now goeth to Grapvine Run, this part of s^d^ highway to be 3 Rods wide and from thence as the high way now goeth to ye Contrey Road by Co^ll^ Wears 2 Rods Wide
2dly And have lay'd out an other high way begining at s^d^ deviding Line and Runing Easterly at ye north Eand of the Lots in the 6 Range of lots in the afore s^d^ division as s^d^ Lots are bounded to Lay northerly of s^d^ bounds 2 Rods wide to the way that goeth from Richard Sanburns by James Sanbuns except it be at a great Rock in s^d^ way against Stephen Hobses Land and theire s^d^ high way to Lay one Rod to the Northward of s^d^ Rock.
3dly And have Layed another high way from the deviding Line between Hampton & Exeter Runing Southerly at the side of the Estermost Lot in the 7th Range in s^d^ devision to the way Last mentioned 2 Rods wide
4^ly^ And have Layed out another high way from s^d^ deviding Line between Hampton & Exeter Runing south at ye Esterly Eands of the Lots in the 8th Rang of Lots in s^d^ devision through s^d^ devision 2 Rods wide
5^ly^ And have Lay'd another high way from s^d^ deviding line between Hampton & Exeter near Wadly Crams Runing Southerly at the Esterly Eands of the Lots in the 9th Range of Lots in s^d^ devision as the

Lots in s[d] devision are bounded to the high way at John Prescuts aforementioned 2 Rods wide and this wee make our Return this 20th day of Feb. 1733–4

MOSES BLAKE, ELISHA PURINTUN, JOHN BACHELDOR } Select men of Hampton falls or South Parish

Vera Copia. attest,

Jon[a] Fifield Parish Clerk

Petition relating to a Parish.

To the Honourable hous of Representatives of this his Majesties Province of New Hampshire Greeting.

Gentlemen we your honours humble petitioners humbly sheweth that whereas his Honour y[e] Governor with his Majestys Counsel in answer to a petition from hampton did Grant a parish at North Ende of said town as shall apear by a Coppy of s[d] grant, but it did not com to the honrable hous of Representatives for their concurranc thearwith Thearefore we your honours humble petitioners humbly crave your concurrance theare with, and in so doing you will much oblege us your humble Servants As in duty bound we shall ever pray,

Hampton November 30, 1730.

Simon Marston
Maurice Hobbs
Timothy Dalton
David Pag
Simon Darbon
Joshuay Brown
John Godfre
Thomas Marston
Joseph Dearbn
Daniel Sanborn
Widow Sarah Samborn
John Shaw
Jonathan Page
Richard Tayler
John Johnson
John Radman
Thomas Marston
Benj[a] Roby

John Wedgwood
Edmund Chapman
Ebenezer Godfrie
Ruben Darbon
Job Chapman
William Palmer
John Darbn
John Marston
Joseph Chapman
Benj[a] Thomas
Sam[a] Darbon
William Godfree
Sam[l] Marston
Sam[l] Bachelder
Benimin Johnson
John Smith
Samuel Dearbon

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Petition of the Inhabitants of Hampton Falls for a tavern license.

1732–3. To his Excellence Jonathan belcher Esq. Capt Generall and Commander in Chief in and over His Majᵗᵗᵉˢ province of New hampshire &c and to the Honᵇˡᵉ the Counsell and House of Representatives conveaned in Genˡˡ Assembly.

The humble petition of us yᵉ Subscribers Inhabitants of Hampton falls parish most humbly sheweth,

That for three or four years Last past wee have had Sundry Divisions and parties made which has cosd much distraction and trouble amongst yᵉ people of this parish upon yᵉ account of yᵉ tavern. The hous formerly Bult by Coˡˡ Peter Weare at yᵉ Corner where two streets met was Bult with Logs after yᵉ manner of a Garrison and on purpose for a publick hous of Entertainment for travelers &c and was veary sarvesable for yᵉ Security of Travelers and yᵉ Inhabitants in yᵉ troublesum time of war, upon yᵉ consideration of so good service to yᵉ publick yᵉ Generall Assembly of this province made it a Licenced Hous as wee have been Inform'd and it has been Improvᵈ for yᵗ use ever since, till about a twelve month since, and now By the consideration and order of his Majᵗᵗᵉˢ Genˡˡ Quarter sessions of yᵉ peace for sᵈ provence held at Dover the fourth of Sept 1732 a Licence was Granted to another man whos hous is not so convenient and against yᵉ Desire of most of the Inhabitants of this parish the Selectmen of our parish Did at yᵉ sessions affore said approbate Mr Daniel Colins, yᵉ present owner of yᵉ old Hous yᵗ usually had ben the tavern who has substance by him and well suplied to keep yᵉ house with sutable nessasaries for entertaining Strangers and travellers and since he has had yᵉ sᵈ Hous he has Laid out Considerable upon it in altering and makeing new additions to make yᵉ Hous more convenient and fitt for such Bussness. Therefore wee your most humble petitioners most humbly prays that as yᵉ said House was a Licenced Hous formerly as By Liveing Evidence it can be proved that it was so and for That it will prevent making parties amongst us by Striveing every year which shall get yᵉ approbation, that the same Hous may again be made a Licenced House the person keeping it allwais giving Bonds from time to time for keeping Good orders and your petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Daniel Weare	Jonathan Fifield
Samuel Daves	Moses Black, Sen
Robart Quinby	Jon Chapman
John French	John Stanyan
Henry Lampre	Shadrick Warde
Edward West	Jorge Conar
Joseph Cass Jr	Isac Fales

Jeremʰ Browne
John Halle
Timᵒ Blake
Henry Grene (?)
Benjᵃ Moody
Ralp Butler
Enoch Sanburn
John Gove Senʳ
Winthrop Dow
Joseph Worth
Jacob Brown
Ephraim Hoyt
Nathan Hoyt
Ephraim (?)
Jeremiah Easman
John Chase
Joseph Nortin
Ebenezer Dow
Samuel Page
Jonathan Chase
John Philbrick
Nathan Sanborn
Jesreal Clifford
John Clifford
Beniamin Prescut
Samuel Tilton
John Cram Jr
Joseph Pearkins
John Ware
Samuel Healey
Nathˡ Healey
Jonathan Green
Jonathan Bachelder
Joseph Tilton
John Cram
Jonathan Cram Jr
John Browen
James Moulton
Samuel Matshun
John Matson
Jacob Garland
John Green
Jacob Stanyan
Thomas Gill
Amos Cass
Samˡˡ Emons
Benjamin Green
Jedjah Blake
Nathan Clough
Joseph Cass
Jonathan Cass
Sharon Blake
Jonᵃ Philbrick
Benjᵃ Pearkins
Thomas Cram
William Thomson
Ichabod Robie
Jethro Tilton
Jonathan Nason
Jonathan Bachelder
Samuell Lane
Richard Sanborn
James Sanburn
Joseph Tilton
Shurbun Tilton
Josiah Tilton
David Sanborn
John Page
Ebenezer Prescutt
Stephen Hobs
Israel James
Abraᵐ Moulton
Timothy Huchesun
Joseph Wadleigh
John Swain
Philemon Blake
Robert Row
John Bachelder
Wadley Cram
Daniel Kelley (?)
John Green Sen.
Lenamin Cram
William Evans
Jonathan Tilton
Jonathan Prescutt
Jonathan Row
Thomas Leavit
Elisha Prescut (?)
Elisher Prescut Jr
Benj Prescut
Edward Tuck
Samˡˡ Blake
Nathaniell Prescutt
Joseph Draper
Richard Nason
Beniamin Sanbon
James Prescutt
Jeremiah Green
Jonathan Prescut
Benjᵃ Sweet
Benj. Hiland
Timᵒ Hiland
Calub Browne
Thos. Philbrick
Jeremy Gove
Jonathan Dow
Jnᵒ Harvy
John Gove, Jr
Calub Swan

In Coun. Feb. 28ᵗʰ 1732–3.
Read and unanimously Voted to be dismissed.
R. Waldron Secry.

Petition for a new Parish.

To His Exeellency Jonathan Belcher Esq Governor and Commander in cheif in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England

And To the Honourable the Council for said province and to the Gentlemen of the house of representatives now sitting in Genl ass^{m} for said province,

The humble petition of the Inhabitants in that part of kingstown called the East part of kingstown and the west part of the inhabitants of the falls parish in Hampton

Humbly *sheweth*

That there being fifty familys & upwards within the precincts above named who having for a long time lived at a grate distance from any meeting house where the publick worship of God has been carryed on and most of us having great familys which very Rare above one or two of a family can go to the house of God ye greater part of the time by reason of the great distance we live from any meeting house and thereby the greatest part of our familys have been deprived of the dispensation of ye Gospel and there has been almost a famine of ye word and worship of God amongst us thear being near four hundred souls whereof not above ye sixth or seventh part can attend said worship which is very prejudicial to the Glory of God and destructive to our eternal wellfare for the Greatest part of us thus to be brought up in ignorance which is a greater Grief to us than we can herein express and y^{e} only cause of addressing your Excellency and the hon$^{bl e}$ Council & assembly herein and for preventing the difficultys and hardships which we have for a long time laboured under, and for the advancement of the glory of God and good of souls we the subscribers hereof humbly pray your excellency & y^{e} Honnorable the council that we may be set of a particular district or precinct for the maintaining a Minister with the priviledges of carrying on the affairs of town or parrish according to the bounds hereafter expressed or as your Excellencie and the Honorble the council & house of Representatives shall in wisdom see fit the bounds of ye precinct herein petitioned for we desire it may run two mile and a half on Almsbury line, westward into Kingston from ye line y^{t} divides Hampton and Kingston & one mile and halfe on Exeter line and from ye same dividing line to run Eastward by Almsbury & Salisbury line Eastward towards Hampton two miles, 1-2, and to carry that same breadth of twc mile and a half to Hampton north line upon a north line parallel to the dividing line afores^{d} and if your Excellency & ye hon^{bl} ye council & house of Representatives in your wisdom shall see meet to grant your Petitioners so reasonable a request, we most humbly pray if possible it

may be so y^{t} we may be able to build a meeting house this summer and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

John Darling	Isaac Fellows
Joseph Greele	Ebenezer Collins
Joshua Prescutt	Ebeneza Sleeper
Nathan Bachelder	Samuel Amons
Phinehas Bachelder	John Weare
Richard Clifford	Samuel Clifford
William Smith	Jonathan Palmer
Isick Gresen (?)	Beniamin Brown
Abraham Smith	John Graves
Benj^{a} Swett	Josiah Bachelder
Daniel Darling	Ebenezer Bachelder
Edward Fifield	Joseph Shaw
Joseph Berry (?)	Gideun Shaw
Samuell Look	Philip Dow
Beniaman French	Edward Lock
Jonathan Dole	Ezekiel Dow
Jonathan Greely	Nathan Prescut
Ebenezer Fellows	Joshua Prescut Jr
Ichabod Clough	Josiah Tilton
Jeremy Webster	James Tapin
Isaac Godfrey	Ruben Currier
John Clifford	Henry Currier
Benjamin Morrill	Ezekiel Morrill
Jeremiah Prescutt	Abner Morrill
Elihu Chase	Richard Fites

In the House of Representatives May 9th 1732

The within Petition Read & ordered that the Parrish of Hampton Falls & the town of Kingstown be served with a copy of this Petition, & ordered to appear the Second day of the next fall sessions to shew reasons if any they have why the prayer of petition should not be granted. This to be at the charge of the Petitioners

James Jeffry cler. Assm.

In Council May 13th 1732

Read and Concurrd

R. Waldron, Secry.

I assent to the above vote.

May 15: 1732. J. Belcher

In the House of representatives March 1st 1732–3

The within petition being read & the pleas and allegations on both sides being heard & considered tis Voted that the s^{d} petition be dismissed

George Walton, Clr. protem.

Concurrence in foregoing petition.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq & Govr & Comander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamps in New England & to the Honnourable Council & to the Gent^{n} of the House of Representatives now sitting in General Assembly for s^{d} Prov.

This is to Signifie to y^{r} Excellency & to the Honble Council

& to the Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, That Whereas we the Subscribers of Hampton Living whithin ye Limits or Bounds of this Petition for a Precinct or Parish out of Hampton & Kingstown, we are willing to Joyn with them & Desire to be Received & accepted as Petitioners with them and so we Rest with them in our Capacity his Majestys most dutiful Subjects & Humbly hopeing for a Gracious answer to our Petition.

Hezekiah Blake
Ruben Smith
Nathaniel Derbun
James Perkins
Andrew Webster
Mary Longfellow Executrix to Nathan Longfellow De^d^
Jonathan Dow

Objections thereto.

At a Leaugual Meetting of the freeholders of Hampton New parish held this 28th day of August 1732.

1st Nathaniel Weare Esq. Chosen Moderator for said meetting

3dly Left Ichabod Robie Chosen a Commite man to Appeare at the General Court to give in Reasons why the West part of the new parish in Hampton may not be set of to the East part of Kingstown to be a parish.

4^ly^ Capt Nathaniel Healys Chosen a Commite man for the Eand above said.

Hampton February the 22; 1732–3

A True Copie as attest

Joseph Tilton Clerk.

At a Lagull town meting held agust ye 28 1732. 2^ly^ Voted that we wont not seet of the Est part of ouer town for a district or parish to Joyne with ye West part of hampton and that there was not one voter appared for ye sating them of att said meeting the Rason is Becase we are sensaball it will Rueine our town.

3^ly^ Captn Johathan Samborn and Mr Ebenezer Stevens are chosen to Represent ye town at our Generall Cortt to give in our Rasins Why we did not grant the petitionars thare petition for to be sat of for a district or parish at ye Est End of our Town.

A True Coppy by Mr John Swett Town Clerk.

Petition of Hampton Falls for a Fair.

To His Excelency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampsh^r^ and to the Hon^bl^e^ his Majestys Councel.

The Humble Petition of the Select men of the Parish of Hampton falls in said province Most Humbly sheweth

That whare as in this our Parish and in the Touns and Parishes Round about us, and to ye East ward of our Province Thare are Raised a Bundance of Quick Stock which to geather

with other Traffick Twill in a year we want to sell, and having experenced Sumthing of benifet of a Time and place for Marketing s^d^ Stock and Traffick in our s^d^ Parish, which Benifett not ondly our Parish but also our Province togeather with ye eastward Touns have shaired with us in by Reason of the Seathuation of our Parish^s^ being ye most conveanient to accomodate Boath Provinces. We your Petitionours Therefore most Humbly pray

That his Excelency and ye Honble Councel order that ye second Wednesday and Thursdays in May and ye Third Wednesday and Thirsday in October to be days of Fair for Publick Traiding in this Parish att the now most noted Publick hous and Cuntory Road yearly and for ever, for the Benyfites above Expressed As in duty bound will ever pray.

JOSEPH TILTON
JONATHAN PRESCUTT
JOSEPH WORTH
ISRAEL BLAK
BENJAMIN GREEN
} Selectmen of ye parish of Hampton-Falls.

Hampton Falls Oct. 10th 1734.

Grant of a Fair to Hampton Falls, 1734.

George the 2^d^ by the Grace of God of Great Britain, [Prov. Seal] France and Ireland King Defend^r^ of ye faith &^c^ To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting—Know yee that we of our Especial Grace certain knowledge and meer motion for the due encouragment of Trade and Traffic within our Parish of Hampton Falls in our province of New Hamp^r^ in New England and for the more effectual carrying on of the same there—Have Given and Granted and do by these presents give and grant to the Inhabitants of our Said Parish & their successors the privilege of having holding & keeping two yearly Fairs in the s^d^ parrish forever, each to continue 2 day together & no more, The one To begin on the last Tuesday in April, and the other on ye last Tuesday in October, Annually, To have and to hold the said Privilege of keeping Two yearly Fairs as abovesaid for the Ends and purposes above expressed to the said Inhabitants and their successors forever In Testimony whereof we have caused our Province seal to be hereunto affixed

Witness, Jonathan Belcher Esq. Our Govr & Com^r^ In Chief in and over our s^d^ Province the twenty fourth day of October in ye 8th y^r^ of our reign, Anno'q Dom. 1734.

J. BELCHER.

By His Ex^cy^ Comand w^th^
the advice of ye Coun.
R. Waldron, Secy

Agreement relating to Rev. Ward Cotton.

Hampton 1733-4.

Att a Legall meeting of the freeholders of Hampton this 12th day of March 1733-4.

8ly Wee the freeholders doe agree to settle Mr Ward Cotton he in the work of the ministry with the Revd Mr Gookins provided his proposals be such as we can comply with and that three men be chose as a comittee to Treat with Mr Cotton and to know his proposalls and make Report to the Town at this meeting The comittee chosen are

Sen Christopher Page & Capt Jonathan Marston

Saml Palmer, Jr.

Vera Copia as attest

Saml Dow Town Clerk.

Dissents.

Majr Wingett
Simon Marston
Morish Hobs
Saml Dearborn, Sen.
Jonhn Wedgwood
Will Godfrey
Tho Marston
Tim Dalton
Daniel Samborn.

Petition adverse to setting off a new Parish.

To his Excelency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over His Majties Provence of New Hampsher &c and to ye Honble Counsell and Hous of Representatives convead in Generall Assambly.

The humble petition of us who are Inhabitants of ye west part of Hampton Falls parish most humbly sheweth

That whare as thare is a petition prefered to ye authority afore sd by Sundry of ye Inhabitants of ye est part of ye Town of Kingston and sundry of ye Inhabitants of ye west part of Hampton Fall parish to be set of a perticular District or presenct with preveledges and Limets as in sd petition is Exprest

And we Inhabiting in that part of sd Destrict petitioned for that Doos Belong to Hampton Falls parish do with submission Declare ourselves posatively against sd petitioners proceedings and conduct in that afair and that sd petition was preferd without our knowledg or Desire and if sd petition shold be granted we fere it will caus Devisions and parties amongst us on that acompt, which will be veary hurtfull both to church and Comunwelth, And there fore we His Majtes most Loial Subjects and your most humble suppliants mo t humbly pray that your Excelency ye Honble Councell and Gentlemen of ye Hous of Representatives in your wisdom and easiness will not suffer us to be carried away by constraint but will see caus not to grant thair Request and wee your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

John Prescut
Robert Row
John Bachelder
Richard Samborn

Abraham Moulen ?	Beniamen Cram
Wadley Cram	Samuel Blake
Jonathan Tilton	Jonathan Row
Shurbun Tilton	James Fogg
Daniel Kelley	Ebenezer Prescut
James Sanbun	John Page
Steven Hobs	Shadrach Ward
Edmund James	David Samborn
Simon Batchelder	Timothy Huchison
John Tilton	Israel James
James Prescut	Phileon Blake
William Evens	John Cram
John Tappen	John Mellsher
Joseph Draper	Joseph Row

Reasons against the same.

Whare as thare is a pettion Exebeted to his Exelency and the hon^{ble} Councell and house of Representatives in the Provence of New hamsheir by Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Est part of Kings town and the west part of the Inhabitance of the Falles parrish in Hampton to be sett of two miles and a halfe In to Kingstown and two miles and a halfe in to Hampton as it is set forth in the petition for a peteckluer destrict or precint for the maintaining a minister with priveledges of cayring one the affairs of a town or parrish and your Excelency ye Honble Councell and house of Representatives in your grat wisdom Clemency & Justess ordered y^{t} ye parrish of hampton ffalles and the town of Kingstown be sarved with a copy of ye petition and to appeare the second day of the next falle session^{a} to Shue the Resons if thay have any why ye prayer of petition should not be granted for which we the Inhabitants of Kingstown are Inxpresably thank full for your gratt wisdom prudence and Justess In this affaire and with your Leve give these following Reasons why ye said petition should not be granted, firstly those of our town that are pettetioners are all of them new comers to setell In our town and som of them young men and no famelyes and none or but one of them ware att any truble or charge with us In the Long and Tedus wars that we indured in this town with the heathen enemy nore in building our meeting house In Said town for above twenty yeares agoe.

2^{ly} The meeting house which thay have Raised Is so neare to the Sid of ye destrict petitioned for that grate part of the ajasent inhabitance which for a Long time have borne grate charges in ye Wars and all other Charges In the plase and It is more defecult and worse for them to go to meeting there then where they now do.

3^{ly} Many of ye petetioners are new comers from other plases to setell neare the Line sume call it between the Masetusets and new Hampsheir and so as ocasion sarves them shift and shrink and bare no charge any whare if they cane help it the Line being not yett determened.

4^{ly} Sume of the petetionrs Lives In the Provence of the Masetusets about Seven of them sume of them In Nebury and Sume of them att Salsbury and sume of them may heir the Salmes Sung at the meeting house in the houses where thay now live, and Sume others of the petitioners are amost as neare, If not quitt to a meeting house Thay have raised and have moved from Salsbury and Amsbury and other plases whare the Gospell is plentefuly preched and good orders Keept and for them to say thare is allmost a famine of ye word of God amongst them Is very obsurd and Redekules.

5^{ly} And to us the Inhabitants of Kingston It is well known that we

have been att grat charg and werry much exposed in ye war and since ben att grate troubell and defrence about owr minister and are Justly and Quietly setteled In a brave Christian and Loveing way with agood worthy minister and if these petetioners cane have their desire In thare petition will make agrate dele of trubell amongest us againe and Probabell all is Because thay will not be att a Litell charge with us In building a meeting house In said town In the senter of said town whareby we all may have Rome to Mett In Comonalty for to take of two miles and a halfe from owr town of Kingstown will take allmost halfe ye Ratable Estate of our town and Sundry of our first Setlers with us and have caryed one with us In the ware and other charges that have arisen In ye town so that If thare petition should be granted it will have a gratt tendency to Ruine the Pease Love unity among us, and Render us very incapable of supporting owr Reverend Minister as we ought to do as In duty we are bound to do, There fore we pray it may not be granted.

6^ly^ They say for preventing the defecelty and hard sheps thay for a Long time have Laboured under and for ye advansment of ye glory of God and the good of soules thay humbly pray which If they have Laboured under such defecoltyes for a Long time it was and must be before they came heire whare they now Live for they have ben whare thay now live but a very litell time and for ye gratest part of them as thay say to be brought up In Igronces we hope and dout not but if thay will come to owr meetings and heire our minister they will grow wiser and pull down thare meeting house

All which Considered with else may be said we your most dutifull and obedent Servants dout not but your Excelencey and y^r^ hon^ll^ Counsell and Gentellmen of the house of Representatives In your gratt wisdom Clemency and Justes will see casue not to grant thare petition for which we shall ever Remain werry thankfull and shall ever pray.

JON^a^ SANBURN.
EBENEZER STEVENS.

Names of persons in different towns who petitioned to be annexed to Massachusetts—1739.

[See Prov. Pap., Vol. V., pp. 915-925.]

[☞ These names not repeated in the Index. ED.]

IN HAMPTON.

Nathl Seargent	Nathl Drake
Jabez Smith	Philip Towl
Gershom Griffith	Jno Sherburne
Henry Fifield	Edmund Rand
James Johnson Jr	Samll Dalton
Danl Moulton	Jona Leavitt
Wm Lock	Wm Gross
Samll Leavitt	Thomas Lane
Joshua Brown	Benja James
Thos Rand	Seth Fogg
Wm Staniford	Jabez James
Jacob Moulton	Ward Cotton
Charles Walker	Benja Lampre
Thom. Ward	Richd Sanborn
James Johnson	Caleb Towl
John Hoeg	Ezekiel Moulton

Abner Samborn
Isaac Libbe
Peter Garland
Thoms Bachelour
Joseph Moulton
Hampton, 42.

Thoms Brown
Jacob Brown
Nehemiah Hobs
Robert Drake
Shubel Sanborn Jr.

IN KINGSTOWN.

Joseph Seecomb
Simeon Brown
Jno Carter
Peter Tomson
Jos. Eastman
Theoph's Griffin
Orlando Bagley
James Wood
Jeremiah Currier
Thos Eastman
his
Theoph. X Clough
mark
Joseph Bean
Ralp. Blasdel Jr
Jno Silaway
Thomas Carter
his
Jno X Carter, Jr
mark
his
Moses X Blasdel
mark
Thomas Brown
Wm Whicher
Elipha. Griffin
Wm Stephens
Jno Griffin
Theos Griffin Jr
Danl Rowell
Samll Hunton
Enoch Blasdel
Wm Bagnel
Nathan Swett
Daniel Young
his
Benj. B. Wadly
mark
Benjamin Sawyer
Moses Nicholls
Ebenezer Stevens Jr
Joseph Sawyer
Samll Tucker
Joshua Woodman
Jeremiah Wheeler
Joseph Fellows
Joshua Webster
Jona Young
his
Jere X Quinby
mark
Ephraim Stephens
Benjamin Choate Jr.
Saml Webster
his
Saml X Bean
mark
Joseph Young Jr
his
Wm X Lovrin
mark
Jno Young
Saml Robey
Tristrim Sanborn, Jr
Obediah Elkins
Aaron Young
Edward Scribner
Robert Stuart
Elisha Sweet
Jacob Peasley
Benjamin Eastman
his
Wm X Robey
mark
Ebenezer Webster
Philip Huntoon Jr
Jno Darling
Wm Boynton
Jachabod Clough
Phineas Bachelder
Ebenezer Sleeper
Nathan Bachelder
Isaac Godfrey
Jona Blasdel
Benja French
Samll Emons
Josiah Tilton
Ebenr Fellows
Ebenr Bachelder
Benja Clough
Ebenr Collins
Jacob Gale
Ebenr Blasdel
Jno March
Benja Stevens
his
Samll X Welch
mark

his
David F Quimby
mark
Jno Sweet Jr
Jno Huntoon
Danll Gilman
Joseph Elkins
Jona Choate
James Bean
Danl Darling
Nathl Smith
Stephen Gilman
his
Robert X Stockman
mark
Philip Welch
Henry Morrill
Jeremiah Hubbard
Richd Tande
Wm Silloway
Jabez Page
Ephraim Elkins
Jacob Flanders
John Morgin
Jona Stevens
Jno Clark
Samll Eastman
Jno Huton
Joseph Bean Jr
Paul Sanborn
Jno Hubbard
Thomas Elkins
Jona French
Stephen Flanders
Wm Clifford

Kingstown, 146.

Jona Sanborn ters
Caleb Towl
Dyer Hook
Benjamin Sweet
Nathl Huntoon
Timothy Eastman
Daniel Bean
Elisha Winsle
Eben Esman
Benja Sleeper
Jno Thorn
Jno Sleeper
Daniel Moody
Wm Long
Ralph Blasdel
Jacob Morrill
Jona Blake
Benja Silla
Charles Hunt
Abraham Smith
Wm Smith
Jonathan Greley
James Tapin
Benja Morrill
Jno Fifield ters
Stephen Merrill
Philemon Wells
Caleb Clough
Isaac Griffin
Elly Bede
Samll Buswell
Phillip Moody
Jona Hobbs
Benony Long
Henry Bagly

IN HAMPTON FALLS.

Nathl Weare
Charles Treadwell
Benja Sanborn
Benja Sanborn, Jr.
Nath. Healey
Ebenezer Shaw
Nathan Tilton
John Cram
Samuel Lane
John Brown
Daniel Brown
John Brown, Tertius
Jacob Green
Benja Prescutt
Jona Bachelder
Reuben Sanborn
Samuel Tilton
Abraham Brown
Jabez Smith
Benj. Swett

John Stanyan
Thomas Leavitt
Caleb Swain
Samuel Prescut
Philemon Blake
Joshua Blake
Abner Sanborn
William Russel
Jonathan Fifield
Samuel Shaw
Joshua Purinton
Winthrop Dow
Amoss Cass
Enoch Gove
John French
Benjamin Dow
Jonathan Hoag, Jr
Ebenezer Blake
Ephraim Hoit
Joseph Thrasher

Thomas Brown
Jeremiah Pearson
Moses Stickney
Ebenezer Gove
Nathan Green
Daniel Swett
Jeremiah Benet
John Flood
Jonathan Chase
Thos Silla
Archelas Lakeman, Jr
John Flood, Jr
Joseph Worth.
John Worth
Obadiah Worth
Daniel Chase
Jonathan Green
Benjamin Green
Jonathan Hoag
Henry Drewe
Job Haskell
Stephen Palmer
Philip Pravere
Jeremiah Brown
Ebenezer Knowlton
Jno Knowlton
Ralph Butler
Nathl Burrell
Nathan Cram
Thomas Cram
Meshech Weare
Benja Hilyard.

Hampton Falls, 72.

In Chester.

John Calfe
James Norres
James Willson
Francis Towl
Moses Hills
Samuel Emerson
Enoch Colby
Jonathan Blunt
Stephen Webster
Daniel MacFarland
Ebenezer Dearborn
Ebenezer Flagg
Ebenezer Blunt
Benjamin Smith
John Kezer
James Vearnum
Jonathan Hall
John Hall
Jonas Clay
Ephraim Hasseltine
Ebenezer Carlton
Christopher Carlton

Chester, 22.

In Stratham.

John Clark
Moses Thirston
John Thirston
David Staniford
Samll Leavitt
Miles Leavitt
Nathan Taylor
Richd Sinkler
Samll Leavit
Abraham Stockbridge
John Stockbridge
Charles Rundlet
Satchwell Clark
John Rundlet
James Robinson
John Robinson
Moses Leavit
Edward Fifield
Ephraim Leavit
Nathl Ambross
Solomon Cotton
Jonathan Chase
Thomas Rallings
Richd Calley
Joseph Hoag
Joseph Merril
Benjamin Tayler
Richd Young
Matthew Tomson
Joshua Kennison
Owen Runnels
Joseph Larrance
Jonathan Fifield
John Veazey
Nathll Piper
Jonathan Silley
Caleb Rawlings
Jonathan Chase Jr
Joseph Hoit Jr
Joseph Edgerly
John Purmott
Richd Palmer
James Chase
William Calley
Benja Hoag
Enoch Merril
Abraham Morgan, Jr
John Avery
William Chase
James Kennison

Ebenezer Folsham
Joseph Merrel
Samll Leavit, Jr
James Leavit
Benja Cotton
Theophilus Rundlet
Joseph Hoyt
Stratham, 63.

Moses Kennison
Joshua Neall
John Wadleigh
Joshua Rallings
Thomas Calley
Dudley Leavitt

IN EXETER.

Daniel Gilman
Jona Norres
John Burgin
Robert Light
Trueworthy Gilman
Peter Gilman
Benja Thing
Nathl Webster
Daniel Gael
Jona Gilman
Simon Gilman
Josiah Gilman
James Leavit Jr
Samll Thing
Israel Gilman
John Kimbal
Andrew Gilman
John Light
Jacob Tilton
Samll Gilman
Nicholas Gilman
John Gilman
John Lord
John Odlin
Thomas Deane
Edward Hall
Moses Gilman
Nathl Bartlett
Thomas Lord
John Gilman 4th
John Leavit
Joseph Thing
John Marsh
Daniel Thing
Philip Connor
his
Jona JJ Gliden
mark
his
Jona X Foulsom
mark
Jona Foulsom
Abraham Foulsom
James Gordon
his
Eph & Foulsom
mark

his
Thos X. Gording
mark
Benjamin Fifield
his
Benj. B.. Judkins
mark
Joseph Thing, Jr
Peter Thing
Jeremiah Gilman, Jr
Edward Gilman
Darbey Kelly
Abner Coffin
Job Judkins
his
Benj. X Foulsom
mark
his
Nicholas X Gorden, Jr
mark
John Quimby
James Gilman
Dudley Odlin
Ezekl Gilman
Nathl Bartlett, Jr
Joseph Scribner
Joshua Gilman
Abner Thirston
Peter Foulsom
John Haines
Samll Conner
Daniel Thurston
Benj'a Conner
Nathaniel Gorden Hardy or
Benja Rollins, Jr
Stephen Gilman
Nathl Thing
John Foulsom, Jr
Saml Stevens, Jr
Jethro
John Gorden, Jr
James Leavit
Ebenezer Light
Moses Swett
Samll Elkins, Jr
Jona Wadleigh
Dudley Leavit

Benja Smith
Jeremiah Calfe
Jerema Calfe Jr.
Saml Edgerly
Daniel Calfe
James Calfe
Benjamin Mead
Thomas Wilson
James Bean
Joshua Wilson
Nathl Ladd
Jabez Sanborn
Thomas Edgerly
Daniel Folsom
John Bowden
John Hutchinson
Ephraim Robinson
John Dudley
Edw. Colcord
Richard Preson
Daniel Elkins
Jeremiah Veasey
Jona Gilman, Jr
James Folsom
William Doran
Elias Ladd
Coffin Thing
Abraham Folsom
Edward Thing
Jonathan Thing
William Lamson
Samll Lamson
Daniel Young
Joseph Gorden
Daniel Homan
Jeremiah Conner
John Looge
John Gilman
John Gilman
Humphrey Wilson
John Rice
Thomas Lyford
Cornelius Conner
Samuel Dollof
Saml Stevens
Amos Dollof
Theophilus Hardy, Jr
his
Edward O. Stevens
mark
Ephm Philbrok
his
Jona X Dollof
mark
Henry Marshall
Biley Hardy
Kinsley James
Francis James
Charles Rundlet
Peter Folsom
Ben. Swain
John Baird
John George
Thomas Webster, Jr
Thomas Kimming
James Whidden
Nicholas Gorden
Henry Steel
his
Danl o Giles Jr
mark
Thomas Robinson
Nathll Folsom
Jno Smith
his
Ebenezer X Martin
mark
Davison Dudley
Francis Bracket
John Robarts
his
Alex X Roberts
mark
Jonathan Young
Michael Bowden
Nicho Gilman, Jr
Nehemiah Gilman
John Steel
Joseph Graves
his
Edward X West
mark
Edward Scribner
John Scribner
William Graves
Geo. Roberts
Stephn Loal
Timothy Gorden
Job Kennison
Joseph Louncan
John Lovern
Joseph Giles
Ebenezer Colcord
Elijah Vickery
Nathan Taylor
James Dudley, Jr
Jonathan Smith, Jr
Daniel Lary
James Young
Benj. Scribner
Daniel Giles
Samuel Dudley, Jr
Israel Smith
John Giles

Saml Young
James Dudley
John Brown
Josiah Moody
Zechariah Judkins
William Smith
Israel Smith
Daniel Gorden
John Roberts Jr
Nicholas Dollof
his
Joseph Z Atkinson
mark
James Robinson
Nicholas Dudley
Timothy Leavit
Stephen Leavit
Samll Smith Cooper
Samuel Roberts
Sealey Leavit
Benja Gilman
Daniel Warmall
Nicholis Dudley, Jr
Waley Stevens
Josiah Thing
Carter Gilman
his
Joseph X Taylor
mark
John Farrar
Jonathan Dudley
Samuel Dudley
John Odlin, Jr
Philip Wadleigh
George Creston
Robert Young
Samuel Magoon
Benony Gorden
William Graves, Jr
Edward Ladd
John Lufkin
James Gorden, Jr

Exeter, 262.

Nathl Prescut
Jona Prescut
Joseph Wadleigh
Saml Blake
Israel James
Jeremiah Batchelder
Richard Samborn
Stephen Hobes
Edward Smith
Ebenezer Huchens
John Green
Ebenezer Knoulton
Jona Brown
Samll Page

Kensington, 27.

Israel Young
Samll Dudley, Jr
Clement Moody
Jeremiah Beean
Samll Richardson
Jonathan Gorden
Joseph Leavit
David Smith
Ambros Hindes
James Norris
Daniel Lad
Josiah Lad
Caleb Gilman, Jr
Richard Dollof, Jr
John Leavit, Jr
Curtis Bean
David Dollof
Daniel Lary
Elisha Odlin
Peter Coffin
John Gorden
Nicholas Perryman
Theophilus Hardy
Jonathan Conner
John Canby
Stephen Lyford
Benjamin Dollof
Jona Gilman, ters
Moses Conner
Nathl Gilman
Trueworthy Dudley
Jeremiah Bean
John Foulsom ters
Robert Patten
Jacob Smith
Jona Smith, Jr
Samll Smith
Samuel Lary
John Norris
Dudley James
Francis James

In Kensington.

Benja Brown
Henry Lampre
Jeremiah Green
George Conner
John Cram
William Evens
Abner Evens
Abraham Moulton
David ——
Benjamin Jarvis
John Prescut
Benjamin Page
Timothy Huchens

In Greenland.

Samll Weeks
Joshua Weeks
Benja Macris
Samll Chapman
Pennel Chapman
Ebenr Johnson
Matthias Hains
Lewis Hains
James Johnson
Samll Davis
Jno Weeks, Jr
Ebenr Johnson, Jr
Saml Weeks, Jr
Joseph Hill
John Johnson
George Kennison
his
Joseph X Melon
mark
Joseph Weeks
Samll King
Joshua Macres
Robert Bryon, Jr
Jona Dockum, Jr
Jno Dockum
Robert Bryon
Jno Watson
Tucker Cate
Jno Rawlinggs
Total, 55.

Wm Sympson
Samll Bryon
Jno Lang
Jedediah Weeks
David Dearborn
Jno Weeks
Walter Weeks
Mathias Weeks
Benja Kennison
Joha Weeks
James Cate
Enoch Clark
Bracket Johnson
Samll Hiex (?)
Henry Clark
Elias Philbrook
Benja Philbrook
Joseph Grant
Jona Weeks
Henry Clark, Jr
John Johnson
Elisha Bryon
Nathl Huggin
Danll Allin Jr
Nathan Johnson, Jr
Joseph Meloon, Jr
Leonard Weeks
Wm Walles

Hampton,	42
Kingston,	146
Hampton Falls,	72
Chester,	22
Stratham,	63
Exeter,	262
Kensington,	27
Greenland,	55
Total,	689

Reasons offered against a new district.

Whare as thare is a Petition Exhibeted to his Excelency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties provinc of New Hampsher in New England and to ye Honble Counsell and Gentelmen of ye Hous of Representatives for s^d^ province By Sundry of ye Inhabitants of ye Est part of ye Town of Kingstown and Sundry of ye Inhabitants of ye West part of Hampton Falls parish to be set of a perticuliar Destrict or precenct with Preveliges and Limets as in s^d^ petition is exprest, and your excellency ye Honble Councell and Gentleman of ye Hous of Representatives in your grate wisdum Justes and Clemency has ordred y^t^ ye parish of Hampton Falls and ye toun of Kingstown shold be sarv'd with a copy of s^d^ petition and to

appear ye secund Day of ye next Fall session to shew Reasons if any they have why ye prayer of s^d petition shold not be granted for which we of s^d Hampton Falls are veary thankfull for your grate wisdom prudenc and Justes in that affair, and we under writen deligates for s^d Hampton Falls parish Leaveing our Neiburs at Kingston to spake for themselves shall with submission give ye following Reasons why ye prayer of s^d petition shold not be granted:

firstly—Becaus y^t thare is but about twelve of ye petitioners y^t belongs to our parrish and sum of them youngmen and has no Fammilies and sum Dwelt in the other parish in Hampton when s^d petition was prefered and not above three or four families y^t we know of y^t has Long Dwelt in y^t part of our parish and for y^t Reason cold not be for a Long time under Defeculties & Deprived of ye Despensation of ye Gospell and be in such a famishing condition as they say they have ben in.

2dly Becaus Considering ye Grateness of ye number of ye Inhabitants y^t Dwels in y^t part of our parish petitioned for y^t has not petitioned which we suppose to be about thirty and sum of them has dwelt Longer in y^t part of s^d parish than any of s^d petitioners has and has larger families who are uterly avearce to s^d petitioners procedings and Conduct in y^t afair and for such a considerable number of our Inhabitents as afore s^d to be carried away against their wills we humbly conseave to be a Intolerable hard ship and will Rither have a tendency to caus Devisions and anamosities then to advance ye Glory of God, &c.

3^ly Said petitioners Desirs y^t their Request may be Granted for ye Reasonablenes of it—But for such a miner part as a fore said to Endeavour to Cary of such a Larg tract of Land from our parish as Exprest in s^d petition, which is all most half our parish and ye Inhabitants with it against their wills we humbly conseave to be veary unreasonable and absurd—And for these Reasons and many others y^t might be given we Doubt not but your Excelency the Hon^l Councell and Gentlemen of ye House of Representatives in your grate wisdum Justes and Clemency will se Reason sufficient not to grant s^d petitioners thair Request for which we of Hampton Falls shall Ever Remain veary thankfull.

NATH^l HEALEY
ICHABOD ROBIE.

Remonstrance against a new district.

We the subscribers His Majestys most duty full & Loyall subjects dweling within y^t destrict or precinct petitioned for In ye East part of Kingstown & ye west part of Hampton—Do with Humble submission declear ourselves positively against the thing as wrong & very hurtfull to Church and common wealth supposing it to be hatched up by two or three disafected persons without our knowledge and consent & Humbly pray it may not be granted.

Shadrach Ward
Benigman Bachelder
Simon Batchelder
John Prescut
Robrd Row
Nathanel Prescut
John Bachelder
Richard Sanborn
Beniaman Cram
Wadley Cream
Danel Kely
Jonathan Tilton
Israel James
Joseph Draper
James Fogg
John Page
Thimothy Huchsien
Edmund James
Ebenezer Prescut
Jonathan Rowe
William Cleves (?)
James Prescut

Philemon Blake
Abraham Moulton
James Sanbun
David Sambun
Shurbun Tilton
John Tilton
Stephn Hobbs
Tristram Sanborn
Nathanel French
Joseph Eastman
William Taylor
Jeremiah Quinbe
John Webster
Andrew Webster
Tho. Griffin
Moses Sleper
Eben Easman
Samuel French

Theofeolos Grifen
Thomas Easman
Dan[ll] Rowell
Moses Rouell
Ralfe Blasell
Thom[s] George
Dan[ll] Blasdell
Jona. Blasdell
Theo Griffen Jr.
John Carter
Peter Sanborn
Ben[ma] Magon
Nath[l] Smyeth
Ele Beede
Philip Modey
Joseph Louern
Sam[ll] Been, Jr
John Sleepr

Petition of persons formerly of Massachusetts to be annexed to Hampton Falls.

To his Excelency Bening Wintworth Esq. Governor and Commander in cheif In and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Honorable the Counsel now setting in said Province.

The Humble address and Petition of His Majesties Legal and deutifull Subjects whose names are hereunto Subscribed which did belong to the Esterly part of Salisbery but now by the Settlement of the Province Lines Fall into New Hampshire most Humbly sheweth that your petitioners are Informed that those which did belong to the westerly Part of Salisbury and some of Almsbery which by said Line falls into New Hampshire Intends to Petition that all those Persons that did belong to Salisbery and Almsbery & are now taken Into New Hampshire might be made in to a twown ship or Parish by themselves & not annexed to any other, and have Presumed so far as to set up a frame for A Meeting House in the Westerly Part which if it should be granted would be very Pregeditial to your Petitioners who live most of us above six miles from. said meeting house so y[t] those of us that frequent y[t] way of Worship Could not attend the worship of God with our wifes and families as we out to doo and for all other affairs belonging to a town or Parish of all things that are notified at said meeting house we shall have no knowledge of them which may be greatly to our Damage and a great Dificulty & Troble to select men and Constables and all such affocirs.

We Therefore Humbly Pray that we may not be joyned to them but may be Annexed to Hampton Falls or some other

way as in your wisdom you may think meet and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray.

Sam[ll] Eaton	Samuell Fowler
Joseph Page	Samuel Walton
Jabez Eaton	Jeremiah Wheeler
Jacob French	Beniamin Hoyt
Ephraim Eaton	James Jackman
John True	Elihu Dow
Beniamin Baker	John Eaton
John Paige	Noah Dow
Joseph Tucker	Beniamin Collins
Richard Smith	Bildad Dow
Joseph Todd	Judah Dow
Thomas Selly	Benony Selley
David Fowler	Samuell Selly
Trustrim Collins	John Eaton, Jr

Petition of inhabitants of N. E. part of Hampton to be exempted from minister's tax.

To His Excellency Bennin Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief In and over his Majesties Provence of New Hampshire in New England and to the Hounorable the Councel and house of Representatives of said Province In General Assembly Convened—November y[e] 16th 1742

The Humble petition of us the Subscribers Most Humbly sheweth—that the houses and habitations of your petitioners are in the north eastly part of the town of Hampton at or near Littel Bores Head near Lettel River or near the Sea and that we live most as near upon a Line to the meeting house at the town as to that at North hill and that it is much easier for us to go to meeting at the town than to North Hill by reason of the Goodness of the way to the town and there not being any way for us to go to meeting at north hill nor ever like to be unless we travil much farther than to go to the meeting house at the town:

Your petitioners Humbly pray that your Excellency and Honours would be pleased to take this petition into consideration and in your grate Goodness exempt us from paying to the support of the ministry at North hill and that we may still remain—and be taxed to the support of the ministry and the other Publick charges of the town as we used to be and your pititioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

John Batchelder	Mosies Lampre
Thomas Hains	Obadiah Marston
Jeremiah Page	Stephen Brown.

In the House of Representatives 9[br], 25th 1742
The within Petition Read and considered & voted to be Dismissed
James Jeffry Clr. Assm

Petition of sundry persons to be annexed to Hampton Falls or other towns.

To his Excellency the Governer of New Hampshire &c

May it plese your Excellency: we namly John Paige, Benjaimin Baker, John True & Jacob French are in that Petiton Prefer'd by those in the Easte Parte of that slip &c, and we Desire we may be anext to Hampton Falls We our hairs and estats; and we

Benjamin Brown	Epharaim Brown, Jr
Caleb Clough	Benjamin Brown, Jr.
Amos Paige	Samuel French
Nathaniel Maxfield	Jonathan Brown
Abraham Brown	Samuel Brown jr

desire to be annexed to Kingsinto"—we our Hairs and Estates.

Feb. ye 18th 1741.

Jacob French John True Jonathan Hoit Benj^a^ Baker Joseph Tucker John Page	East part for Hampton Falls
John Page Benj^a^ Baker Sam True Jacob French	in the petition for the East part at Hampton Falls.

Jonathan Kimball	Andrew Whittier
Jonathan Watson	Timothy Whitter
Jonathan Farran	Josiah Fowller
Timothy Farran	Thomas Fowller
David Gooden	David Elott
Samuel Gooden	Thomas Carter
Philip Chaloss	John Carter, ter^o^
Beniamin Kimball	Willm Fowller
Caleb Hobs	Thomas Carter
Roger Estman	William Fowller
William Sargent	William Fowler jr
Nathaniel Ash	John Carter Jr
George Marten	Joseph Fowler
Robert Marten	John Carter
Abraham Morrill	Jacob Carter
David Marten	Samuel Carter
Every Tooker	
Orlondo Bagly	We desire to be anext to Kingstown
David Bagly	

(within the petition)

Benj Kimball	Jon^a^ Farran
Caleb Hobbs	Nathl Ash
Roger Eestman	David Gooding
Phil Chaliss	Jon^a^ Kimball—9.
Saml Gooding	

Petition of persons in Haverhill district not to be joined with Kingstown.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excelency Benning Wintworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Cheif In and over his Majisties Province of New Hampshire In New England and To the honorable his Majesties Councils of said province

The petition of Jeremiah Eaton, John Kezar and others—The Subscribers who live In Haverhill Destrict and on the Norwest side of the Washpond brook.

Humbly *sheweth:*

That sometime agoe your petitioners together with others to agreat number of Haverhill destrict and some of Amsbery Humbly requested your Excellency and honors to Incorporate them into a town ship according to the meets and bounds defined in the petition

And your Exelency and honours so far Incouraged us as to send a committee to view our situation and circumstances who accordingly haveing attended that Service made their report, But it so hapned that when our committee waited upon your Excelency and honours Expecting to receive a charter of Incorporation acording to the return of said Committee the sudden news of a french fleet on the coasts so alarmed the Government that your Excelency and honers were obliged to imply all your thoughts and powers for the defence of the province and Lay aside that afair with all other Business to a further day—That as we are informed the town of Kingstown who have been of late indeavering to Extirpate us from the Earth did on the 26th of September last set us of together with some few others who call themselves Kingstown men into a parish,

Thereby further indeavouring to vex grieve hurt and Iniure us who had many of us much rather be lead into Captivity By some Christian nation than be Joynd with them who are our Greatest adversaries under a pretence that wee are part of Kingston when in fact wee and our anchestors have possesd our lands as part of Haverhill for more than one hundred years past, and since the settlement of the line have allways been accounted Haverhill destrict men and paid rates accordingly.

Wee therefore humbly and earnestly request your Exelency and Honers to compasenate our Surcumstances and not suffer us to be rent and torn to peices by our inveterate Kingston adversaries but will aford us releif by Joyning us with our Dear Christian friends relations and neibeurs of haverhill Destrict according to our petition with them & as soon as may be Incorporated Into a township—That so wee may have the

Gospel setled amongst us and for your Exelency and honours your humble petitioners as In duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Haverhill Destrict October 13th 1746.

David Heath
William Heath
Joseph Stevens, Jr
Jeremiah Eatton
John Kezar
Samuel Stevens
David Stevens
Benjamin Stevens
John Stevens
Nehemiah Stevens
Wait Stevens
Stephens Johnson, Junr
John Muzzey
John Hunkins
John Johnson
William Hancock
Joseph Stevens
Michael Johnson
Tho. Stevens
William Easman
Daniel Robands
John Mills
Daniel Johnson
John Atwood
Zachariah Johnson
Joseph Little
John Chute
Daniel Little
Thomas Mills
Phillip McCarrygon
Beniamin Philbrick
James Mills.

Notification of a Parish meeting to set off those who call themselves Presbyterians.

Province of New Hamps } These are to notify the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Parish of Hampton falls in said Province who are by Law Qualified for to Vote to meet at this meeting house on the 2d day of Sept next at one of the clock in the afternoon for the following Purpose vizt—Whereas a Number of Persons in said Parish have Lately Professed themselves of the Presbyterian Perswasion, and have apply'd to some ministers at Londonderry whom they call the Boston Presbytery Desiring to be under their care Representing that they apprehend themselves able and are freely willing to maintain a minister of the orthodox faith and that is united with said ministers in the Presbyterian Government and have made some objections to paying towards the support of the settled minister in said Parish—And altho there is no Just Reason that the above mentioned Persons should in any Respect be excused except that it may Probably be most for the peace of said parish that the abovementioned Persons and their estates should be set off to act in all Respects as a Distinct Society or Parish by themselves, except paying their Proportion of the Province tax untill a new Proportion thereof—Therefore to see if the Parish will vote to set off the abovementioned Persons and their estates to be Incorporated if they think Proper to apply for it to act in all respects by themselves as a Distinct Society or Parish Except Paying their Proportion of the Province tax untill a new Proportion thereof, and to pay all other charges as usual untill they shall be set off as above mentioned—The Line of said New Parish to be fixed by a committee of the General Court with Liberty for such of the above mentioned Persons as shall not fall within said New Parish to Poll off with their estates and belong thereto, And for any who shall fall within said New Parish who are not of the Presbyterian Perswasion to Poll off with their Estates and belong to the old Parish and for any who are not of the Presbyterian Perswasion who have or shall have Lands within said New Parish to Poll off said Lands to belong to the old Parish.

At a Leagel meeting of the Freeholders and inhabitants of the Parish of Hampton falls held the Second day of Sep^{tr} 1765—Col Meshech Weare choosen Moderator for said Meeting

Voted That the people caled Presbyterians in this parish be set off as a Distinct Parish by them selves according to the foregoing Notification for the above meeting.

Hampton Falls December 31st 1765

Copy attested by Caleb Sanborn,
Parish Clerk.

Petition for a Presbyterian Society.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor and Commander in Cheif in and over his majesties Province of New Hampshire &c—To the Honorable his Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province Convened in General Assembly—November 21st, 1765.

The petition of the subscribers, Free holders & Inhabitants of the Town of Hampton Falls in said Province—Humbly Sheweth.

That about Two years ago The Rev^{d} Mr Pain Wingate in the congregational way & manner was settled in the work of the ministry in said Town, That the Religious sentiments of and Doctrines preached by the said Rev^{d} Mr Wingate are very different from those of your Petitioners—and disagreable to them—That your Petitioners apprehended they could not be profited by the peaching and ministration of the s^{d} Rev^{d} Mr Wingate That the measures taken by the said Town in order to the settlement & support of the said Mr Wingate are as your Petitioners conceive unprecedented and Justly Grievous to them, and that therefore your Petitioners and many others Inhabitants of said Town (near one half thereof) constantly opposed his settlement there and dissented therefrom:

That your Petitioners are conscientiously of the Presbyterian Perswasion respecting Church Government, Doctrine Discipline and Worship That they with others of their Brethren of that Perswasion have for sometime past been regularly formed into a church, built a meeting house in said Town for the publick Worship of God, Called and settled a minister in the Presbyterian way, namely The Rev Mr Samuel Perley: That your Petitioners conscientiously and constantly on the Lords days and at other times occasionally attend the publick worship of God there, according to their said Perswasion; That the premises notwithstanding the select men of the said Town of Hampton Falls for the last year assesed and Rated your Petitioners for the support of the said Mr Wingate and

obliged them to pay the same, That the selectmen of said Town for the present year have again assessed & Rated your Petitioners for the same purpose, which your Petitioners apprehend to be a Grievous & unreasonable Burthen upon them —Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray your Excellency and Honours to take their case under your wise consideration And as they conceive themselves to be Intitled to his majesties Grace & Favour in allowing to all his subjects Liberty of Conscience—and that it is unreasonable for them to be compelled to pay towards the support of a minister they do not nor cannot hear and attend upon for the Reasons aforesaid When at the same time they are at the expence of maintaining publick worship among themselves in that way and mode they think most agreable and nearest to the directions given in the Scriptures by the Great head of the Church, and where the True Doctrines of Grace & Salvation are preached according to their Opinion of those things: They pray your Excellency & Honours would grant them Relief in the premises by Exonerating them their Families and Estates and all others within said Town of Hampton Falls who are of the same Perswasion and attend the publick worship of God with them from all ministerial Rates and Taxes in said Town (Excepting to their own minister) and by setting them off as a distinct Parish for ministerial affairs only, and by enabling the said Presbyterian congregation to raise & Levy on themselves such Taxes and assessments as they shall from time to time find necessary for the support of the ministry and publick worship of God among themselves—or grant your Petitioners such other Relief as your Excellency and Honours in your wisdom shall see fit, And your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c. &c.

Thomas Leavitt
Ebenezer Knowlton
Richard Smith
Jacob Smith
Winthrop Gove
John Chase Jr
John True
Abener True
Joshua Page
Joseph Page
Abel Page
Thomas True
Joshua Page, Jr
Benjamin Eaton
John Eaten
Thomas Eaten
Wimon Eaten
Joseph Norten
Joseph Eaton
John Selley
Samuel Selley
David Eaton
Samuel Eaton
Nath[l] Sinkler
David Knoulton
Eliphe Merrill
Thomas Brown
Nathan Gove
Enoch Gove
Sam[l] Philbrick
Jonathan Swett
William French
Jacob French
Jonathan Weare
Isaac Brown
John Kenney
Elisha Brown
Jonathan Walton
Job Haskell
Enoch Boid

Samuel Felch	Daniel Chase
Joseph Falch	Thomas Selly
Henry Roby	John Eaton, Jr
John Chas	Jonathan Hoyt
Abel Daves	Elezer Gove
Simon Clough	Paul Grinelf
John Robei	Jonathan Chase, Jr
John Hunt	Beniamin Leavit

Province of New Hamp^{r} November 27th 1765

The foregoing Petition read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly

T. Atkinson, Jr Secry

Province of New Hamp^{r} } In the house of Representatives Novr 27th 1765.

The annexed Petition being Read and considered,

Voted, That the Petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the siting of the General Assembly after the first day of January next, and that the Petitioners at their own cost serve the selectmen of Hampton falls with a copy of the Petition and order of Court that they may appear and shew cause if any they have why the Prayer thereof should not be granted.

M Weare, Clr.

In Council Nov 28th 1765

Read & concurrd.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of New Hamp^{r} } In the House of Representatives July 2^{d} 1766.

The foregoing Petition being taken under Consideration and the Parties heard thereon:

Voted, That the Petitioners have liberty to Bring in a Bill for them and their Estates to be set off from the Parish of Hampton falls to act in all Respects as a distinct Society or Parish by themselves Except paying their Proportion of the Province tax untill a new Proportion thereof. The line of said New Parish to be fixed by a committee of the General Court with liberty for such of the Petitioners as shall not fall within said new Parish to Poll of with their Estates and Belong thereto and for any who shall fall within said new Parish who are not of the Presbiterian Perswasion to Poll off with their Estates and belong to the old Parish, and for any who are not of the Presbyterian Perswasion who have or shall have Lands within said New Parish to Poll off said lands to belong to the old Parish agreeable to the Purport of a Vote of the Parish of Hampton falls the Second day of Sepr 1765.

M. Weare, Clr.

Province of New Hamps^{r} } In the House of Representatives July 9th 1766.

Upon a motion of the Petitioners for some alteration in the foregoing vote

Voted, That it be understood that any non Residents who have or shall have Lands in either Parish shall have liberty to Poll off their said Land to that Parish which they shall choose.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eod^{m} Die

Read & Concurr'd.

T Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Petition in answer to the foregoing Petition.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governour and Commander in Chief In and Over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honour[le] his Majestys Councill and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

Jany 1st 1766.

We the Subscribers, Chosen by the Parish of Hampton falls a Committee on their behalf, to make answer to a Petition Exhibited to the General Assembly Nov[r] 21st 1765 By a Number of Freeholders and Inhabitants of s[d] Parish Praying to be Excused from Paying to the Support of the Rev[d] M[r] Paine Wingate Setled in the work of the ministry in said Parish &c.

Beg Leave Humbly to Represent to your Excellency and Honors That the Reasons assigned by said Petitioners are such as ought by no means to Prevail for their being Exempted in the manner They pray for. And this we trust will clearly appear from a true state of facts Relative to these affairs

We would therefore Inform your Excellency & Honors That Mr Wingate Having Preached in the Parish for some months before Mr Baileys Death and Afterwards to the General Satisfaction of the People The Parish with the Advise of the Neighboring ministers Proceeded to give him a call to Settle in the work of the ministry there, which call was unanimous by the Church, and General by the Parish, not more than three or four Persons opposing his Settlement. But the terms of Settlement not being agreed on he gave a Negative answer After which the Parish heard some others on Probation and gave Mr Micah Lawrence a call to settle, which we mention because it has been Represented as if the Parish were unreasonably set for Mr Wingate's settlement and no other person. But the same persons who opposed Mr Wingate's settlement opposed the settlement of Mr Lawrence; which made the Generality of People think their opposition was more from a disposition to make Difficulty in the Parish than from any Reasonable objection they had against Either of the Persons. But Mr. Lawrence also gave a Negative answer on accompt of terms of settlement. Whereupon the People in General Signified their Desire to Renew their Call to Mr Wingate, and agreed to get him to Preach for four Sabbaths, if he could be Procured. It is true this was opposed by those who had all along opposed his settlement, but this was then but three or four Persons Mr Wingate was accordingly Procured for four Sabbaths; after which a meeting was called. Notice being up two Sabbaths as usual, to see if the Parish would Renew their Call to Mr Wingate to settle which we mention, because it has been Rep-

resented as if there had been some unfair Proceedings as to this meeting, tho' in what Particulars we could never find. At this meeting there was again a general Vote of the Parish to Renew their call to Mr Wingate, not more than six or seven Voting against it, and he had also again a unanimous Vote of the Church at the Same meeting also were voted terms of settlement which being five Pounds Sterling more than had been Voted before there were more Persons against the terms of settlement than against the call, tho' we think not more than ten or twelve at that time. But after wards many of these Petitioners spoke of it as an Extravagant sum (the sum is 55 £ Sterling in the whole besides the Personage) and made this the Ground of uneasiness, and of stirring up Persons against Mr Wingates Settlement Representing that it was too much for such a Poor Parish to Pay, and if that were taken off they would be Easy; this was their General talk and the whole Ground of complaint then made. With what Propriety they Desire to take off (as they say) near one half and to maintain another minister when but a year or two ago the whole Parish were not able to pay fifty five pounds Sterling yearly, we must leave to themselves to Explain. The truth is the whole Parish is not more than sufficient to support one minister Properly, Tho' we think there was no Reason to find fault with what was Voted Mr Wingate; Thus matters Rested for some time and it was Generally tho't that the uneasiness which had arose on accompt of the Salary would subside, But sometime after some of those Persons who had all along opposed our Settlement went about, and in a very Private manner Procured a Number of Persons to Sign a Paper to Signify to Mr. Wingate that there was a great Number of Persons in the Parish against his settlement, in order to Discourage him from acepting, which being accidentally heard of by one or two Persons who were for Mr Wingates settlement, and of the time when they Designed to carry the same to Mr Wingate it was tho't Proper that some Persons should go and meet them at Mr. Wingates to Know what Objections there were, and Endeavor to clear up any Difficulties that might be made, accordingly three or four Persons went and met the Persons who had been Procuring Signers, and informing them of what they heard Desired to Know who were uneasy and what their Objections were, that they might clear up the Matters if they could. But they Reply'd that what they had to Say was to M[r] Wingate they had nothing to say to any Body Else, and after the other Persons were with drawn they Delivered a Paper to Mr Wingate Signed by a considerable Number of Persons Signifying that they were against his setling, without assigning the Least Reason, and when they were asked the Reasons Declined giv-

ing any which not appearing to Mr Wingate (after Enquiring into all circumstances) to have Equal weight with the unanimous Vote of the Church and Clear Vote of the Parish at a Legal meeting he accepted of the call. After this another Paper was carried about to be signed to Request the selectmen to call a meeting "to see if the freeholders Inhabitants of Hampton falls will Vote that all the Votes has been Past Relating to Mr Wingate call in the Work of the ministry Salary and support in this Parish of Hampton falls be Repealed and absolutely Revoked and made void &c." Which being Delivered to the select men they Denied calling a meeting, looking upon it altogether as Improper after matters had been fairly and clearly determined at fair and Legal meetings to call a meeting to Revoke the same as it would be after a minister had been setled Ever so Long to have a meeting to Revoke all that had ever been done. The absurdity and Impropriety of which they tho't must be quite Evident, with several other Reasons which they gave the Petitioners in writing in answer to their Request, in hopes to satisfy them that their Request was unreasonable, However it had not this Effect But they Proceeded to get a meeting called by two Justices at which meeting they voted all the Proceedings Relating to Mr. Wingates settlement to be Null and Void. But not trusting to this when the councell was convened a Committee of the above Persons appeared & Objected to Mr Wingates being Ordained; But never made the Least Objection against his Doctrine, life or Conversation but on the Contrary, being asked by the Councill whether they had any Objections of this sort, said they had not neither did they make the Least Suggestion that they were of a Different Perswasion.

We hope your Excellency and Honors will Excuse this so long a Rehearsal of the Transaction of said Parish Relative to these affairs as all the Objections hitherto made were against the Proceedings of the Parish as Illegal and unfair—for that of being Presbyterians had not yet come into their minds and these Objections as in the Present Petition couched in General terms without assigning a single Instance Wherein they were unprecedented or justly Grievous which made it necessary for to give a Particular accompt of the whole Proceedings that the Instance wherein we have failed, may be Pointed Out, for we never yet could tell wherein it was. From this state of facts we apprehend it will appear clear to your Excellency and Honours that the transactions of said Parish Relative to Mr Wingate's settlement have been Regular and agreeable to the Law and Practise in such cases That his call to settlement, was as clear and Indisputable as Generally can be Expected and that those who afterwards were Drawn in to oppose it had

no just cause for so doing. That at the time when Mr. Wingate was ordained, none of these Petitioners had the least tho't of being of a different Perswasion, for if they had it must be supposed they would have made that one objection before the Councill. We are therefore fully Perswaded that they will appear wholly Inexcusable in Representing as they do in their Petition as if Mr Wingates Religious Sentiments, and the Doctrines Preached by him were the ground of their uneasiness, the contrary to which they themselves declared before the Councill. Moreover from the best Information we can get one Quarter part at least of these Petitioners, never heard Mr Wingate Preach in their lives and many others of them not more than once or twice and not one in twenty of them ever had the least conversation with him to Know any thing of his Religious Sentiments, And they have put down the Name of one at Least in their Petition who his own father has Represented as an Idiot so wanting of understanding that he ought not to be taxed for his head and he has been accordingly omitted and many of the Other Petitioners do not own one Inch of Real Estate in the Parish. How fair these things are we leave to be Judged, and of the like sort is their assertion that near one half of the Inhabitants of said Parish Constantly opposed Mr Wingates settlement and dissented therefrom, the Contrary to which is Evident from the foregoing state of facts.

That these Petitioners as well as we are Intitled to his Majestys Grace and favour we have not the least doubt—and this we look upon to be so great a Priviledge and favour, that it ought never to be made use of to serve wrong Purposes, and here we beg leave only to Remark, that if any number of Persons without any the least pretence of being of a Different Perswasion or any the least Objection to the settled minister as to his Doctrine, Life, or Conversation (which was the fact here) may at any time Seperate and set up as a Distinct Society by themselves, without any Countenance from authority, and whether those they Seperate from Remain able to support the minister or not (whatever Denomination such may please to assume afterwards) there evidently Can be no Certain support for the Ministry at all, which is very far from being the Design of the Act of Toleration, And plainly tends to Destroy Religion of all Denominations.

That these Petitioners have the true Doctrines of Grace and Salvation preached to them according to their sense of these things we have nothing to say to, and that they are so Preached by Mr Wingate Even these Petitioners themselves after all their Endeavors, could never find the least Objection to make to the Contrary, so that the Inuendo's and suggestions against Mr Wingate's Preaching are put in as we conceive for no other

Reason than that they tho't it necessary in Order to their having any Colour for what they Ask, that there should have been in Reality what they without the least foundation Suggest. Such methods we think quite needless in a Good cause and they will we trust be quite unavailable in any Other. Wherefore we Humbly Pray, not only on behalf of the Parish of Hampton falls But of all Religious Societys in General that the Petition may be Dismissed. For we think that Encouraging Persons in Methods such as these Petitioners have Practised will have a direct tendancy to Destroy Religious Societys of every Denomination.

But if it shall Appear Otherwise to your Excellency and Honors, we Humbly Pray that they may be made a Distinct Parish to act in all Respects by themselves, we being fully convinced from what we have already Experienced how great will be the Difficulties of being Connected in Civil matters while there is a Seperation as to Others. For which Reason the Parish were willing Notwithstanding the unreasonableness of all their Proceedings that they should go off as a Distinct Parish and their not accepting of this we think Shews their Disposition more to keep the Parish in Difficulties, than that Religious Principles are the foundation of their Proceedings.

MESHECH WEARE
RICHARD NASON
JONATHAN TILTON
CALEB SANBORN
NATHANIEL GOVE
ABNER SANBORN JR
} Committee.

Petition for a Presbyterian Society renewed—(with slight alterations).

1767 To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, To His Honorable his Majesties Council and House of Repsentatives for said Province Convened in General Assembly July 3d 1767.

The Petition of the Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Hampton falls in said Province, Humbly Sheweth.

That about three years ago the Revd Mr Pain Wingate in the Congregational way and manner was settled in the work of the ministry in said town;

That the Doctrines Preached by the said Revd Mr Pain Wingate are very different from those of your petitioners and dis-

agreeable to them. That your Petitioners apprehended they could not be Profited by the Preaching and ministration of the said Rev[d] Mr Wingate. That the measures taken by the said Town in order to the Settlement and support of the said Mr Wingate are as your Petitioners Conceive unprecedented and Justly Grievous to them, and that Therefore your petitioners and many others (near one half thereof) constantly opposed his Settlement there and Dissented therefrom. That your Petitioners are Conscientiously of the Presbyterian Perswation Respecting Church Government, Doctrin Discipline and Worship That thay with others of their Breathren of that said perswation have for some time Past Been Regularly formed into a church built a meeting House in said Town for the Public Worship of God, Called and settled a minister in the Presbyterian way Namely the Rev[d] Mr Samuel Perley. That your Petitioners Conscientiously and Constantly on the Lords day and at other times occationally attend the Publick Worship of God there according to their said Perswasion—That the Premises Notwithstanding the select men of the town of Hampton falls for two years Past have Rated your Petitioners for the support of the said Mr Wingate, which some of your Petitioners have been Imprisoned therefor, which your Petitioners apprehend to be a Greivious and unreasonable Burthan upon them. Therefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray your Excellency and Honors to take their case under your wise consideration, and as they Conceive themselves to be Intitled to his Majestys Grace and Faviour in allowing to all his subjects Liberty of Conscience and that it is unreasonable for them to be Compelled to Pay towards the support of a minister whom they do not hear and attend upon for the Reasons aforesaid when at the same time they are at the Expence of maintaining Publick Worship amonge themselves: Thay pray your Excellency and Honors would Grant them Relief in the Premises by Exonerating them their families and Estates and all other within said town of Hampton falls who are of the same perswasion and attend the Publick Worship with them from all ministerial Rates and taxes in said town Excepting to their own minister and setting them off as a distinck Parish for ministerial affairs only and enabling the said Presbyterian Congregation to Raise and Levy upon themselves such taxes and assessments as they shall from time to time Find necessary for the support of the ministry and Publick Worship of God amonge tham selves: and as in duty bound shall ever pray &c &c.

Ebenezer Knowlton
Henry Robie
Richard Smith
Jacob Smith
Samuel Selley
Abel Davis
Joseph Norten
Winthrop Gove
John Eaton Jr
Job Haskell

John Chase Jr
Benjamin Eaton
Enoch Gove
Samuel Pearkins
Wimon Eaton
Thomas Seley
John Seley
Thomas Eaton
Jonathan Weare
Joseph Page
Thomas True
David Knowlton
Elisha Brown
Jonathan Chase, Jr
Thomas Brown
Joseph Chase
Joshua Page
Abel Page
John Eaton
Jonathan Hoyt
John True
Jacob Freanch
Simon Clough
Abner True
Jonathan Walton
Ebenezer Gove
Samuel Eaton
Elisha Merrill
Samuel Felch
Joseph Falch
William French
Paul Greenleaf
Sam[ll] Philbrick
John Chase
Isaac Brown
Benjamin Leavitt
Nathan Gove.

Province of New Hampshire.
In Council Septem[r] 22[d] 1767.
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon[ble] Assembly.
T. Atkinson Jr Secry.

Province of New Hampshire { In the House of Representatives Sept[r] 22[d] 1767.

Upon Reading the foregoing Petition Voted that the Petition[rs] be heard on the said Petition on the third Day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the first Day of November next & that they serve the select men of Hampton falls with a Copy of said Petition & the order of the assembly thereon within fourteen days from this time.
M. Weare, Clr.

In Council, Eodem Die
Read & Concurred.
T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of New Hamps[r]
In the House of Representatives Feb[ry] 12th 1768.
The within Petition being Considered, Voted that it be dismiss'd Reserving to the Petitioners Liberty to Bring in a Bill as heretofore Granted to be set off as a Distinct Parish in all Respects.
M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Feby 18th 1768.
Read & concurrd
Geo. King, Depy Secry.

An Act for dividing Hampton Falls into two Parishes.

Anno regni Regis Georgii tertii Magnæ Brittaniæ, Franciæ et Hiberniæ Octavo.

An act for dividing the town of Hampton Falls into two distinct Parishes.

Whereas a number of the Inhabitants of the Town of Hampton Falls have petitioned to be sett of into a distinct & New Parish for reasons in their said Petition set forth and approved of.

Be it enacted by his Excellency the Governor Council & Representatives in General Assembly Convened and by the authority of the same it is hereby enacted

That on or before the —— day of —— next the aforesaid Town of Hampton Falls shall be divided into two Parishes, each of which shall enjoy all and every Priviledges common to other Parishes, distinct and seperate from each other, under the following Exceptions and Restrictions vizt. A Divisional Line shall be drawn & setled by a committee of the General Court for that Purpose and all such of the Inhabitants who are of the Presbyterian Perswasion whose Estates shall not fall within the new Parish shall be poll'd off and belong thereto, and any of the Congregational Inhabitants whose Estates shall fall within the New Parish shall be poll'd off with their Estates and belong to the old Parish, and the Estates of all nonresident Proprietors that shall fall within the New Parish shall be assessed for all Parish Taxes (excepting ministerial) by the said New Parish.

Report of a Committee to fix the line between the said two Parishes.

Province of New Hampshire } We the Subscribers being appointed by a vote of the General assembly to fix a Line in the Town of Hampton falls in order to The southern Part Thereof Being Erected into a Distinct Parish accordingly we have viewed the Premises Heard the Parties &c and agree to Report that a Line Begining on Kensington Line near Joseph Browns Dwelling house at a Road called Horsehill Road and Following said road Down to a Bridge Below Weare mill then easterly on the North Line of Elisha Browns Land to the North East corner Thereof by the Quaker Parsonage (so called) Then following the Road that leads by Henry Thresher's house to the country road, Then following the Line Between Land of Abraham Dow and Ralph Butler and Isaac Brown and between Said Dow & Meshech Weare Esq. to the south East corner of said Weare's marsh at Browns River (so called) then following said River to the western End of the parsonage Island (so called) then Round on the southern and Eastern Sides of said Island to the afors[d] River and to the mouth thereof, shall be the Dividing Line between the two Parishes.

Hampton Falls April 27th 1768.

John Giddinge
Josiah Bartlett
Ebenezer Thompson } Comittee

Province of New Hamps[r] } In the House of Representatives May 24th 1768.

The within Report being Read and no objection made

Voted, That the Report be accepted and that the Petitioners may bring in a bill agreeable thereto

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council May 24, 1768
Read & concurr'd.
T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Petition of the Parish of Hampton Falls in relation to delinquent tax-payers.

Province of New Hampshire Rockingham ss } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Capt. Gen[l] Governor & Commander in cheif in & over said Province, The Hon[ble] his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in general Assembly conven'd May, 1772.

The Petition of us the subscribers a committee in behalf of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Parish of Hampton Falls in said County Humbly sheweth, that the selectmen for the year 1770 of the said Parish assessed the Inhabitants & Freeholders of the same in the sum of fifty five Pounds sterling money for their ministers salary and afterwards at a Legal meeting of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the same Parish it was, among other things Voted that the selectmen for the year 1770 should be Directed not to make any tax or assessment on the Polls or estates in s[d] Parish for the support of their minister (the Rev[d] Mr Wingate) for that year and afterwards at another meeting of the same Freeholders and inhabitants the said Vote was Ratified and confirmed in consequence of which the selectmen aforesaid did not proceed to issue their warrant to the Constable of said Parish Impowering him to collect the taxes as they had before assess'd them but neglected by which means none of the Taxes asses'd aforesaid were that year collected—And your Petitioners in behalf of s[d] Parish of Hampton falls further shew that the Inhabitants & Freeholders of the same Parish at their Legal meeting the following year (viz the year 1771) Passed a vote Impowering and ordering the selectmen for that year to issue their Warant to the Constable authorizing him to collect the Taxes for the preceding year as they were assessed by the then selectmen for said Parish for the purpose of paying their s[d] ministers salary. They also Voted & appointed us a Committee to give security to the said Rev[d] Mr Wingate for the Payment of the Salary before mentioned on or before the first Day of March then next together with one years interest for the same & if not Paid at that time to be upon interest untill Paid. Consequent upon which last Vote, your Petitioners gave the Rev[d] Mr Wingate their Bond for Fifty five Pounds sterling for the Salary Due to him for the year 1770 and the selectmen for 1771 issued their Warrant Directly to the Constable impowering him to collect the Taxes for the preceding year of Parishioners as before assessed agreeable to said Vote, but afterwards Doubting the Propriety & Regularity of the Vote impowering the selectmen for one year to Rectify the mistakes and negligences of the select men for a preceding year said selectmen forbid the Constable Distraining upon any for said Tax (at lest for a time)

but still Requiring him to Collect the same as near as Possible without Destraint which accordingly he has done and has collected the major part thereof, viz: about three fourths—and we further shew that since the assessment of said tax which was in 1770, many of the Parishioners have withdrawn from said Parish & joyned themselves to the Presbyterian Society in Seabrook & Elsewhere whereby to Exempt themselves from ministerial Charges in said Parish which withdrawment was in 1771 before making of the assessments for that year therefore looking upon themselves clear of being taxed to any ministerial charges either for the present year or the arrearages for the year preceding and the selectmen authority to impower the Constable to collect said arrearages according to said Vote, being frequently Disputed, whereupon those thus withdrawn as aforesaid Refused to pay their proportion of said arrearages (altho not Denying it justly Due) unless upon certain conditions by themselves proposed upon which they would Readily Pay the same without Difficulty altho they could not be compelled to do it which conditions were complyed with by the selectmen to whom they were by themselves proposed whereupon the major part of said arrearages was immediately Paid without Objection & continuing to be collecting untill after a while one & another of those who were in the agreement as aforesaid objects & Refuses to Pay & the number increasing Whereupon others who before had nothing to object against paying their proportion of the same have also Refused & still Refuse untill all shall be compelled to do likewise. The names of those who have not paid their Proportion of said ministers Salary for 1770 are as follows, viz.

Ralph Butler
Philip Burns
Christopher Blake
Richard Brown
Abraham Burnam
Joshua Chase
John Davis
Joel Haskiel
Zebulon Hilyard
Simeon Hilyard
Benj[a] Hilyard
William Lang
Stephen Lang
John Lucy
Amos Leavit
Francis Mershall
Richard Mace
Josiah Moulton
Richard Nason, Esq
Jonathan Nason
Joseph Pervere
Lieut Sam Prescutt
Samuel Robie
Nathan Rowe
Jonathan Stanyan
Enoch Sanborn
Malichi Shaw
Dudley Sanborn
Capt Caleb Sanborn
Jonathan Tilton, Jr
Nathan Weare
Capt Walter Williams
Col Meshech Weare
Chase Williams
Melcher Ward,

(which were then Inhabitants in said Parish of Hampton falls those who were not inhabitants having some Interest in said Parish are as follows viz.)

Thomas Rand
Col Jonathan Moulton

Christopher Toppan Esq	Francis Batchelder
Theo's Smith Esq	Edward Sleeper
Joseph Sweesey	Samuel Colkett
Ebenezer Barker	Edward Tuck
Jeremiah Prescut	Jesse Tuck
Wid° Elizabeth Blake	Benjamin Brown

Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of said Parish Humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours would take the Premises into your serious Consideration and as it would be very hard as well as inequitable that the whole burthen of Taxes should fall only on a part of the Parish when all have been equally Benifited & your Petitioners Doubting the Propriety & Regularity of the Vote as aforesaid & their own ability to compel the Delinquents to a compliance therewith, your Petitioners Humbly beg that your Excellency & Honors would order the said Delinquents to pay the several sums they are Respectfully assessed for the said year 1770, & your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray.

Hampton falls May 29th 1772.

JEREMIAH BLAKE
WILLIAM DAVISON
JEREMIAH LANE
DAVID BACHELDER
JONATHAN BURNAM

Petition of Selectmen of Hampton Falls for leave to make a rate, &c.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq Governor in Chief in & over said Province, The Honourable the Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

The Humble Petition of Benjamin Tilton, William Davison and Nehemiah Cram Selectmen of Hampton falls in the County of Rockingham & Province aforesaid, Sheweth, that on the 22d Day of May last in the thirteenth year of his Majestys Reign, your Excellency & Honors past an act intitled, "An act for dissolving the annual meeting of the Inhabitants of the Parish of Hampton falls and authorizing the holding a new meeting," and in & by the same act (among other things) the said annual meeting is declared illegal & the Proceedings thereof wholly made null and void, and a new meeting of said Inhabitants for transacting the annual Business of said Parish ordered, and the Honorable John Phillips Esq. a member of said house appointed to call and govern said last mentioned meeting till the Business thereof be ended.

By Virtue of which said act a new meeting was called and held at said Hampton falls on the 28th of June last at which your Petitioners were duly chosen select men of said Hampton falls and legally sworn to Execute that office, but your Petitioners were chosen into that office after the time by Law fixed for taking the invoice for the current year was expired and no Power being given your Petitioners after their Election to take an Invoice they have hitherto been prevented from making any Rates in said Hampton falls and must still be so without the Interposition of the Legislative authority of your Excellency & Honors in that Behalf. And whereas the selectmen chosen at said annual meeting took part, and other persons appointed by order of said house took the rest of the invoice for said Hampton falls for the year 1773 the whole of which Invoice so taken was Exhibited to the General Assembly for said Province for the Purpose of assessing the Inhabitants of said Hampton falls their proportion of the Province Tax:

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that they as selectmen afore's^{d} may be authorized to assess & Rate the Inhabitants of said Hampton falls according to the Invoice so taken & Exhibited to your Excellency & Honours, and that the same Invoice may be made good, as if the same had been seasonably & properly taken or that your Petitioners may be impowered to take a new invoice and to make the Rates in s^{d} Hampton falls agreeable thereto, and your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

December 24th 1773.

Benj^{a} Tilton
William Davison
Nehemiah Cram.

Province of New Hampsh } In the House of Representatives Jany 19, 1774, this petition was read & Voted that the petitioners proceed by the old Inventory as soon as may be, and that they have leave to bring in a Resolve accordingly

Wm Parker, Cler.

In Council Eodem Die,
Read and Concurrd,
Geo. King, D. Secry.

HANOVER.

[Hanover was granted by charter July 4, 1761, to eleven persons of the name of Freeman, and 52 others, principally from Connecticut. The first settlement was made in May, 1765. Ed.]

Petition of John House about Islands in Connecticut river.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and Over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in Council

The Petition of John House of Hanover in the Province aforesaid, Gentleman, unto your Excellency & the Honble Council Humbly shews

That your Petitioner was one of the first settlers of said Township with great fatigue and Expence, and has continued to improve his Interest there to this Time, That he purchased of James Hovey two certain Islands in Connecticut River at an expence of twenty Pounds Lawfull money, which Islands lies opposite to said Township and contains together about twelve acres and have always been improved by said Hovey and your Petitioner on a Presumption that they belonged to said Township & said Hovey claimed them in his Right of Proprietorship & Prior occupancy, your Petitioner has been since informed that all Islands in said River not Expressly mentioned in Town grants still remain the Property of his Majesty and for the considerations aforementioned, He humbly hopes to obtain y^{r} Excellencys and Honours Favours to him, in continuing him in his Possessions & Improvements of said Islands & to grant him the Property of the same, or otherways to relieve him on the Prayer of this his Petition as y^{r} Excellency and Honours may Judge best, And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

John House.

Portsm^{o} December 29th 1770.

HILLSBOROUGH.

[A settlement was begun in this town in 1741, by James McCalley, Samuel Gibson, and others; but was broken up in 1744. It was resumed not far from 1759; and incorporated by charter, Nov. 14, 1772. Ed.]

Petition in relation to roads in Society lands.

Province of New Hampshire } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in chief in and over said Province The Honble his Majestys Council and the Honble the House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly to be convened at Portsmouth in said Province on the 20 Day of march next.

The petition of Divers of the Inhabitants of Hillsborough in said Province Humbly sheweth that the Inhabitants of said Hillsborough were obliged to cut and clear a road through a Tract of Land call'd the Societys Land near eight miles in Length which Road we have maintained on our own Cost near seven years being the only way we could come to our own Lands which road has cost us a great sum of money and for two years past we have been obliged to pay province Taxes—Wherefore we Humbly pray your Excellency and Honours would please to make an act to oblige the proprietors & owners of said Societys Land to maintain and keep said Road in repair for the benefit of themselves the Inhabitants of said Hillsborough & Inhabitants of the country around us, your petitioners in duty Bound will ever pray.

Hillsborough Feby. 15th 1770.

Samuel Bradford
Timothy Bradford
Henry Codd
Anthony Morin
Samuel Bradford
Peter Codd
John McCalley
James Gibson
John Gibson
Josiah Colledge
William Pope
Moses Steel
Jonathan Durent
Daniel McMurphy
Timothy Wilkins
Nehemyer Wilkins
Samuel Bradford, Jr
William Williams
Isaac Andrews
John Mead
Abijah Lovejoy
Benjamin Lovejoy
Benjamin Lovejoy, Jr.
Isaac Baldwin
Nathan Taylor
James Taggart
Archibald Taggart
Joshua Estey
William Taggart Jr
Robert Taggart
John Taggart.

In Council March 28th 1770

The within Petition was read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.

Geo: King, D. Secry

Province of New Hamps^r } In the House of Representatives March 28th 1770.

Voted, That the Petitioners be heard on their Petition on the third day of the siting of the General Assembly after the first day of May next and that they cause the Substance of their Petition and this Order of Court to be Published two weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazett that any person may shew cause why the Prayer thereof should not be granted.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Mar. 29th 1770.
Read & concur'd
Geo. King, D. Secry

Province of New Hampshr } In the House of Representatives Jany 1st 1771. The within Petition being Considered and appearing Reasonable

Voted, That the Petitioners have liberty to Bring in a Bill for the purpose mentioned in the Petition

M. Weare, Clr.

The Deposition of John McCalley of Lawful Eage testifyeth and sayes, that to his certain Knowledge that the Road through the Society Land so called leading to Hillsborough was cut out at the Cost of the Inhabitants of said Hillsborough.

John McCalley.

June the 18th 1770.

Province of New Hampshire } June the 18th 1770. Then the above named John McCalley Personally appeared and after Due Caution and careful Examination made a solemn oath to the truth of the above Deposition by him signed to be used at the General Court of the Provence aforesaid in behalf of the Petition that the Inhabitants of Hillsborough has prefered to said General Cort, Praying that the Road through the Society land may be made Good at the cost of the owners of said land.

Before, William Clark, Jus. Peace.

The Deposition of John Gibson of Lawful Eage testifyeth and says that he helped to clear out the Road through the Society land so called that leads to Hillsborough and that it was done at the cost of the Inhabitants of said Hillsborough (1).

John Gibson.

June the 18th 1770.

Province of New Hampshire } June the 18th 1770, then the above named John Gibson Personalley appeared and after Due caution and carefull Examination made solemn oath to truth of the above Deposition by him signed to be used at the General Cort of the Provence aforesaid in behalf of a Petition that the inhabitants of Hillsborough has prefered to said General Cort Praying that the Road through the Society land leading to Hillsborough may be made good at the cost of the owners of said Land.

Before William Clark, Jus. Peace.

(1) The above depositions were to be used in behalf of the foregoing petition for roads. ED.

Petition for an Act of Incorporation.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governor and commander in chief In and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, And to the Honourable his Majestys Council of said Province.

The Petition of the subscribers Inhabitants of a Township

called Hillsborough in the Province aforesaid, Humbly sheweth, That we have been subjected to the payment of Province & County Taxes as fully as the inhabitants of towns in this Province, but have not enjoyed equal priviledges. We are humbly of opinion that, Collecting of Taxes would be facilitated to us, good order maintained, the culture of our land Encouraged, and many inconveniences removed and good purposes answered by an incorporation. Therefore we pray that said Township Butted and Bounded as follows viz. Beginning at the Southeast corner of a Beach Tree marked 7, from thence South Eighty four degrees & 30 minutes west about six miles by the Society Lands so called to a Beach tree marked 7 & 8, from thence north fifteen degrees West about six miles by comon Land so called to a Beach Tree marked 7 & 8 from thence North Eighty four degrees & 30 minutes East about six miles to a Beach tree marked 7, from thence about six miles by the Town of Henniker to the Bounds first mentioned may be erected and incorporated a Body politic infranchised with the same powers & Priviledges that other Towns in this Province have & enjoy. And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever Pray.

Jonathan Duren
Timothy Wilkins
Abijah Lovejoy
John Sargent
John Steel
Archibald Taggart
James Gibson
William Taggart
John McCalley
George Bemaine
William Clark
William Jones
Benjamin Lovejoy Jr
John Gibson
William Pope
William Williams
Isaac Baldwin
Daniel McNeall
Joseph Clark
Isaac Andrews
Alexander McClintock
Samuel Bradford

Petition of John Hill in behalf of Hillsborough and Peterborough, for protection from the Indians.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General & Governor in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, To the Hon$^{bl\,e}$ his Majesties Council & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

Jno Hill in behalf of himself & the other proprietors of a Township N° 7, in the line of Towns commonly called Hillsborough & another Township called Peterborough both in the Province of New Hampshire, humbly shews That your Petitioners & the other s^{d} proprietors have been at great Charge & Expence in settling & bringing forward ye s^{d} Townships to their present circumstances, there being near 40 familys that would

now be in Each of s[d] Towns but are discouraged by the danger of an Indian War, & are now ready to go on if they can be protected in their settlement. Wherefore your Petitioner in behalf of himself & the other proprietors pray in Consideration of the great Expence they have been at in these settlements and the manifest advantage that will accrue to this Province from them, that being Frontier Towns they may be Defended & protected by this Government as Your Excellency & Houn[rs] shall seem meet & your Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

JOHN HILL.

Indorsed, "John Hills, Petition 1744."

HINSDALE.

[This town was originally part of Northfield, Ms., from which it was separated when the boundary line was established in 1741. It was incorporated by charter, Sept. 3, 1753. ED.]

Petition of Col. Ebenezer Hinsdale in behalf of Northfield.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire and the Honorable His Majestys Council for said Province.

The Humble Petition of Ebenezer Hinsdale of Northfield in said Province Esq[r] In behalf of himself & others Proprietors of the Land in said Place a List of whose names is herewith presented, Shews,

That they & those under whom they claim said Land have possessed & Improved the same upwards of Seventy years having first entered thereon under a Grant of the Government of the Massachusetts Bay & have in that time Encounter'd all the Difficulties of the Indian Wars & Struggled with other hardships Incident to Frontier settlements begun in the wilderness remote from cultivated Lands:

That they have Improv'd the same to a Considerable Degree by reason whereof the said place is not only of great advantage to the settlers but useful to the Government wherein it is situate in many Respects too obvious to need enumerating, whereby they have som Just pretensions to such Favours as may be granted by the Government to any of his Majestys Good Subjects & with regard to such as have relation to this settlement to be prefer'd to any others:

That if no Legal title to the said Lands can be derived to the

Grantees under the Governm^{t} of the Massachusetts, yet by virtue of such a Long Seizin in a Country so exposed where the Difficulty of Improving of Lands has been vastly beyond what it is near other settlements where the settlers have with a resolution & Courage scarce Parallell'd Maintain'd their Possessions against all Discouragements & made an useful settlement now in a condition to succour the neighbouring Infant Plantations they seem to have a Legal Right to hold the same Exonerated from all other Duty, than what Loyal Subjects owe to their Prince & the Government under which they live For they have Purchased the Estates they claim here at a Dear Rate upon a just Computation at Least they Humbly Conceive it must be allow'd that in Equity they ought so to Enjoy them:

Wherefore they pray That your Excellency would be pleased to Incorporate the settlers upon & the Lands called Northfield within the Province of New Hampshire in consideration of the Premises with other particular Tracts laid out for farms to Particular persons (whose names are Distinguished in said List) adjacent there unto, Into a Township & Invest them with the Rights & Privileges which other Towns Enjoy in said Province if your Excellency & Honours can by any means grant the same But if not that you would be Pleased to grant the said Lands & Farms to the said Claimers in Proportion & according to their Respective claims with such other Lands not claimed to such Persons as you shall Judge proper and Incorporate the whole as aforesd as that will greatly Facilitate the Further Cultivation & Improvement of said Lands and your Petitioners in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

EBENEZER HINSDALE.

[No date.]

Petition of Proprietors and claimers of land in Northfield south of the Province line.

Province of New Hampshire } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire & to the Honble his Majesties Council for s^{d} Province:

The Petition of the Proprietors claimers of Land lying within his Majesties Province aforesaid heretofore Part of the Propriety & Town of Northfield as the same was granted by the Province of the Mass^{ats} Bay but by the dividing Line of the Province now falls to the North of the said Dividing Line, Humbly shews that your Petitioners have long esteemed the s^{d} Tract of Land their own Property but being informed by your

Excellcy and Honours that the same is his Majesties to be granted to such of his subjects as are desirous to take a grant upon his Majesties Terms Conditions & Reservations, We Humbly pray that we may have a grant of the same so as not to interfere or destroy our former survey & laying out, which we hope considering our long Possession & the great Charge & cost we have been at in defending the same will give us the Preference to any others of his Majesties subjects and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Augt 29th 1753.

Ebenezer Alexander
Joseph Burt
Jonathan Belding
Samuel Hunt
Isaac Mattoon
Nathl Mattoon
Azariah Wright
Remembrance Wright
Benoni Wright
Phineas Wright
William Wright
Willm Holton
Willm Holton, Jr.
Ebenezer Severance
Benjn Rose
Benjn Brooks
Daniel Brooks
Saml Merriman
Samuel Smith
Jonathan Jones
Seth Field
David Field
Ebenr Field
Ebenr Field, Jr
Moses Field
Samuel Field
Paul Field
Rufus Field
Joshua Lyman
Sarah Petty
Alexr Norton
Benjn Miller
Philip Mattoon
Israel Warner
Ebenr Warner
Eleazer Patterson
Samuel Holton
Moses Evans
Randel Evens
Lydia Doolittle
Lucius Doolittle
Amzi Doolittle
Zeb'dh Stebbins
Thos Stebbins
Hezekiah Stratton
Ebenezer Stratton
Samuel Stratton
John Stratton
Eleazer Stratton
Hezekiah Stratton Jr
Nathl Dickinson's Heirs
Moses Dickinson
Nathl Dickinson
Willm Orvis
Stephen Belding
Asahel Burts, Heirs
Aaron Burt
Abraham Elgar
Joseph Alexander
Philip Alexander
Saml Root
Simeon Alexander
John Hollon
Bildad Andras
Joshua Holtons, Heirs
Joseph Pettys, Heirs
Margaret Petty.
Joseph Petty
Josiah Foster
Jonathan Morton
Timothy Nash
Gains Field
Saml Ashley
Hezh Elmer
Jacob Elmer
Daniel Elmer
John Avery
John Grundy
Beriah Grundy
Henry Kenney
Pedaijah Field
Joseph Stebbins
Nehemiah Wright.

Petition of Ebenezer Hinsdale for protection against the Indians.

Hinsdale Decemb^{r} 24th 1755

To His Excelly Bening Wentworth Esq. Capt Gen^{ll} & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampsh^{r} To the Honour^{ble} his Majestys Councill & House of Representatives when In Gen^{ll} Court Assembled.

The petition of Ebenezer Hinsdale of Hinsdale in the province of New Hampsh^{r} In behalfe of himself & others of said Town, Humbly Sheweth that the said Place is the first Town above the Massachusetts line on Connecticut River a part of which has been under Improvement for sixty or seventy years past;

That they have now made Considerable Improvements Even above any Town Ship In the province of New Hampsh^{r} on s^{d} River;

That they have been formerly Protected by the Province of the Massachusetts Bay but have Lately been much Neglected as not being within their Line of Jurisdiction;

That of late we have been kindly cared for of your Excelly & Honours which Imboldens us to pray to you for yor further care.

We look upon ourselves one of the most Exposed places in these parts In as much as the desent from Crown Point by the way of Otter Creek & down west River (out of the way of our Forts at Lake George &c) Is as Easey by West River to us as by Black River to Charles town the uppermost Settlement on Connecticut River.

It is Evident from the Numerous attacks made on this place at the close of the last Warr, and their Repeated strokes on us the last Summer that we are a people much Exposed & Stand in as special need of your Protection as any Place what so ever, and without it we cannot long continue here.

I have Compleated the best fortification in these parts as will be allowed by any who have seen it. It appears hard to give it up to his Majestys Enemies, Never the less I must be obliged to Resign it with out your assistance In the Protection of it.

We are in Constant fear of an Enemy desending upon us since the forces are drawn off in a great measure from Lake George In as much as those Forts maintain'd there stand not in the Way of the Enemies usuall Desent upon these frontiers.

We therefore Intreat you will afford us a speedy & Steady Protection & we as in Duty bound will ever pray.

EBENEZ^{r} HINSDALE,
In ye name of ye rest.

In Council Jany 2^{d} 1756,
Read & recommended & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble Assembly
Theod^{r} Atkinson, Secry.

Petition of Daniel Jones of Hinsdale for remission of taxes.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain Generall and Governor in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the Honorable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in Generall Court Assembled, June 25th 1766.

The petition of Daniel Jones of Hinsdale within said Province of New Hampshire in Behalf of the Inhabitants of that part of Hinsdale which lieth within The province of New Hampshire aforesaid, Humbly shews That by his Majestys Order in Council of July 20th 1764 Connecticut River is the Dividing Line Between the Province of New Hampshire & New York By which settlements Near one half of ye Poles and Rateable Estate within the Town of Hinsdale are taken into the Province of New York. By which means the Inhabitants of that part of said Hinsdale which lieth within the Province of New Hampshire have been obliged to pay for ye year past towards the province tax that whole sum of money or proportion of the province tax that used to be Laid on the Inhabitants & Rateable Estate of ye Town of Hinsdale on Both sides of Connecticut River. Your Petitioner therefore in Behalf of the Inhabitants of ye town of Hinsdale within said Province of N. Hampshire Humbly prays your Excellency and Honors woud remit to sa^{d} Inhabitants that part of the Province tax that would have been laid on ye Inhabitants of Hinsdale on the Western side of Connecticut River had they have remained to ye Province of New Hampshire for ye year past & also to assess them for the Future in the same proportion with other Towns within said Province all which is humbly submitted by
Danl Jones.

June 5th 1766.

Province of New Hampshire,
In Council 4th July 1766,
Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Honble house.
T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

At a Legall meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Hinsdale held at Hinsdale on ye 30th day of October 1765, Voted, that Daniel Jones Esq. Messrs Thomas Taylor & Daniel Shattuck the Selectmen of said Town of Hinsdale or Either of them is hereby appointed and desired to

prefer a petition to the Generall Court for the province of New Hampshire desireing an abatement of the province Tax for the present Year and for the Future as a Considerable part of said Town of Hinsdale that used to be Taxed for the support of the Province of New Hampshire is Now within the province of New York

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The above is a True Coppy of Record Extracted from the Records of the Towh of Hinsdale within the province of New Hampshire.

Pr. Dan[l] Jones Town Clerk, for said Hinsdale.

Decem[r] 9th 1767.

Province rate for the town of Hinsdale, 1764, including Polls, Real estate & Personal estate.

[The sum total of each only is carried out. Ed.]

Names.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Thomas Holton		10	3	2
William Orvis		14	1	
Eleazer Paterson		11	10	2
Samuel Stratton	1	3	6	2
Joseph Stebbins	1	7	8	2
Jacob Elmer		4	7	2
Jonathan Hunt	1	4	10	2
Capt. Orlando Bridgman		13		1
Orlando Bridgman, jr.		3	9	1
John Bridgman		12	7	
Amos Tute		14	6	2
Daniel Sargeant		8	9	2
Rufus Sargeant		8	6	2
Isaac Barret		15	1	
Capt. Nathan Willard	1	2	9	
Wd. Lois Butler		3	4	2
Moses Rice		3	9	1
Benjamin Barret		9	3	
Benj[a] Barret, jun.		5	5	
Oliver Barret		5	7	3
John Barret		4	1	
Thomas Rockwood		3	9	1
Daniel Jones, Esq[r]	1	2		2
Mrs. Abigail Hinsdale alias Hall		15	3	
Daniel Shattuck		19	5	2
Peter Evans	1	9	11	2
Aaron Cooper		12	1	2
Ebenezer Cooper		6		2
Elijah Cooper		6		2
Col. Wm. Symms		3	11	2
En. Thos. Taylor	1	2	4	
Lt. John Evans	1	9	3	
Hez[h] Elmer		12	10	2
Aaron Wright		7	2	3
Moses Belding		12	9	
Samuel Orvis		3	7	
Wm. Orvis, jun.		3	9	1
Sam[l] Friswell		1	6	
Reuben Friswell		4	4	3
Benj. Emmons		4	1	
Josiah Mirick		6	1	
Israel Rowley		3	7	
Joseph Prentice		3	7	
Zur. Evans ?		3	11	2
D[r] Sam[l] Mattoon		1		
John Holton			9	
Lt. Jon[a] Belding		7		

Province rate for Hinsdale (continued).

NAMES.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Lt. Josh. Lyman		1	9	
Simeon Lyman		1	9	
Seth Lyman		1	9	
Gus. Thos. Alexander		1	10	2
Aaron Burt		8	3	
Sam[l] Smith, jun.		1	6	
Elisha Smith		1	3	
Reuben Smith		1		
Joseph Stebbins			3	
Zebadiah Stebbins			3	
Josiah Stebbins			3	
Ebenezer Stratton			10	2
Hezekiah Stratton		1	3	
D[r] Medad Pomroy		1		
D[r] Bildad Andrews		1	6	
David Wright			9	
Reuben Wright			9	
	£26			

This Rate of the Province Tax is to be understood in Sterling or Lawful money of great Brittain, made by us

John Evans
Wm. Orvis } assessors
John Bridgman

Nov[r] 27, 1764.

Province of New Hamp[e] May 29th 1766.

Then Mr. Amos Tute appeared before me & made Oath that the within is a true coppy of an assessment made for the Province tax for y[e] year 1764, which was committed to him as constable to collect, and it is y[e] assessment by which y[e] Rate was collected.

Dan[l] Jones, Jus. Pacis.

Report of Committee.

We find by Examining into the state of Hinsdale by Reason of part of said Town being Taken into the Government of New York there ought to be Remitted to said Hinsdale the sum of Two pounds six Shillings Lawfull money and the sum of thirteen pounds sixteen shillings New Tenor of their Province Tax for the year 1765, & the sum of Two pounds fourteen shillings & sixpence Lawfull money & the sum of Eleven pounds thirteen shillings & six pence New Tenor for the year 1766; also the sum of three pounds Fourteen shillings & three pence Lawfull money for the year 1767. And beg leave to Report the same accordingly

Christo[r] Toppan
John Giddinge } Committee

Names of Inhabitants of Hinsdale, classed according to location, with amount of tax.

Names.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Thomas Holton,		10	3	2
Wm. Orvis		14	1	
Eleazr Paterson		11	10	2
Samuel Stratton	1	3	6	2
Joseph Stebbins	1	7	8	2
Jacob Elmer		4	7	2
Jonathan Hunt	1	4	10	2
Capt. Orlando Bridgman		13		1
Orlando Bridgman, jr		3	9	1
John Bridgman		12	7	
Amos Tute		14	6	2
Daniel Sargeant		8	9	2
Rufus Sargeant		8	6	2
Samuel Orvis		3	7	
Wm. Orvis, jun		3	9	1
Samuel Friswell		1	6	
Reuben Friswell		4	4	3
Israel Rowley		3	7	
	£9	15	1	

The above are those Persons that live on the west side of Connecticut River within the Town of Hinsdale

Names of those who own land in Hinsdale on the West side of Connecticut River, who dwell in other Towns, for which they are rated.

Names.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Doct. Samuel Mattoon		1		
John Holton			9	
Lt. John Belding		7		
Aaron Burt		3	3	
Ebenr Stratton			10	2
Hezekiah Stratton		1	3	
Doct. Medad Pomroy		1		
Doct. Bildad Andrews		1	6	
	£0	16	7	2

Names of those that live ye East side of Connecticut River in Hinsdale.

Names.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Isaac Barret		15	1	
Capt. Nathan Willard	1	2	9	
Wd. Lois Butler		3	4	2
Moses Rice		3	9	1
Benja. Barret		9	3	
Mrs. Abigail Hinsdale, alias Hall		15	3	
Daniel Shattuck		19	5	2
Peter Evans	1	9	11	2
Aaron Cooper		12	1	2
Eben^r^ Cooper		6		2
Col. Wm. Symmes		3	11	2
En. Thos. Taylor	1	2	4	
Elijah Cooper		6		2
Benj^a^ Barret, jun		5	5	
Oliver Barret		5	7	3
John Barret		4	1	
Thomas Rockwood		3	9	1
Daniel Jones, Esq.	1	2		2
Lt. John Evans	1	9	3	
Hesekean Elmore		12	10	2
Aaron Wright		7	2	3
Moses Belding		12	9	
Benj^a^ Emmons		4	1	
Josiah Merrick		6	1	
Joseph Prentice		3	7	
Zur Evens		3	11	2
	£14	10	2	

Deduct one-third of Lt. John Evans Rate & one-third of Mrs. Abigail Hall Rate for Land they own on ye West side of ye River, it being 14 ,, 11, & add to ye West side.

LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

The following are those persons that live out of the Town of Hinsdale who own land for which they are rated.

Names of those who own Land on ye East side who live in other Towns.

NAMES.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Lt. Joshua Lyman		1	9	
Simeon Lyman		1	9	
Seth Lyman		1	9	
Thomas Alexander		1	10	2
Aaron Burt		5		
Samuel Smith		1	6	
Elisha Smith		1	3	
Reuben Smith		1		
Joseph Stebbins			3	
Zebediah Stebbins			3	
David Wright			9	
Reuben Wright			9	
	£0	17	10	2

An Assessment of £26 Sterling the West side of Connecticut River, paid & the East side 8: 8 1-2 Loss.

£11 „ 6„ 9 „ 2.
14„ 13„ 1 „ 2

Vote to remit Tax, &c.

Province of New Hampshire } Feb. 13th 1768 in the House of Representatives,

The house having taken under Consideration the Petition of Daniel Jones in behalf of the Town of Hinsdale in this Province Representing that part of said Town by his Majesty Late order had fallen into the Province of New York & thereby near half of the Polls & Rateable Estate of said Town were now in that Province by which the whole of the Province Tax fell upon that part of said Town which remained in this Province and praying that so much of the said Tax might be Remitted as would have been paid by the Poles & Estates so taken off from said Town and appointed a Com^tee^ to Examine the Affair find that for the cause aforesaid there ought to be remitted to said Town the sum of two pounds six shillings Lawfull money & thirteen pounds sixteen shillings, New Tenor bills of Cred^t^ of said province their Prov^ce^ Tax for the year 1765 the sum of two pounds fourteen shillings & six pence Lawfull money the sum of eleven pounds thirteen shill^s^ six pence New Tenor for the year 1766, and the sum of three pounds fourteen shills & three pence Lawful money for the year 1767 which having been considered therefore, Voted,

That the said several sums be allowed remitted & discounted with the said Town of Hinsdale of which the Treasurer of this Province is to take Due Notice & settle with the said Town accordingly which shall be allowed to him in his account with the Province.

And further as it appears that the proportion of Rateable Estate & Polls so taken off from said Town is two fifths therefore it is Consid-

ered & ordered that the Treasurer in issuing his future warrants Observe the same & conform the same accordingly till a new Proportion shall be made.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eodem Die,
Read & Concurr'd.
T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.
Assented, J. WENTWORTH.

Petition for a new County.

15 Dec 1767. To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General & Commander in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c. and to the Honorable His Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled on the 15th Day of Decr, Anno Domini 1767;

Humbly shews Josiah Willard, Benjamin Bellows, Daniel Jones, Samuel Chase Agents for the Towns of Hinsdale, Winchester, Richmond, Swanzey, Chesterfield, Westmoreland Keene, Gilsum, Monadnock No 4, No 5 & No 6, Alestead, Walpole, Marlow, Charlestown, New Burnet, Claremont, Newport, Cornish, Croydon, Plainfield, Lebanon, Hanover, Canaan, & Lime that there are are about Eight Hundred Families in the abovementioned, Towns between the height of Land and Connecticut River in said Province who continually are at very great Expence in sending their Deeds to the publick Records for said Province, Prosecuti'g of suits at Common Law, proving of wills & settling intestate estates and many other inconveniences your Petitioners labour under by reason of their being so for distant from the several Courts & Offices proper to settle the same. Your Petitioners therefore in behalf of themselves and Constituents humbly pray that the Western part of said Province of New Hampshire adjoining to Connecticut River may be erected into a distinct County with such Priviledges & Immunities as shall be necessary for the well Regulating of the same, & that from Connecticut River the bounds of said County may be extended East to the Monadnock mountains & from ye Line of the province North as far as the North Line of Lime or otherwise as your Excellency & Honors shall think fit, all which is Humbly submitted by

JOSIAH WILLARD
B. BELLOWS
SAM[l] CHASE
DAN[l] JONES.

Petition of Doct. Josiah Pomroy for permission to inoculate for small pox.

To His Excellency, John Wentworth Esq. Captain Generall & Governour in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the Honorable his Majestys Council.

The petition of Josiah Pomroy of Hatfield in the County of Hampshire, Humbly shews and gives your Excellency and Honors to be informed that your Petitioner is about to remove to Hinsdale in said Province of New Hampshire with a view to perform the Office of a surgeon and Physician in its severall Branches and since Innoculation for the small pox has been practised with so much success & with such advantage to mankind, your petitioner is desirous of pursuing that Branch of His Profession at Hinsdale aforesaid provided he can do it under the protection of your Excellency & Honors, as Hinsdale is a convenient place for the Purpose above mentioned and the Inhabitants are willing to have it pursued Your petitioner therefore Humbly prays that he may have Liberty granted him by your Excellency and Honors to erect a Hospital for the purpose of Innoculation under such restrictions as your Excellency & Honors in Great Wisdom shall think proper. All which is humbly submitted by your Excellency & Honors most Obe^{d} Humble Servt

JOSIAH POMROY.

[No date.]

HOLDERNESS.

[Holderness was first granted by charter, Oct. 10, 1751, to John Shepard and others. ED.]

Petition of Samuel Livermore for two rights of Land.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esquire Captain General, Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c.

The petition of Samuel Livermore of Portsmouth in the Province aforesaid Esqr Humbly sheweth, That in and by His Majestys Grant or Charter of New Holderness in said Province, There was given and Granted unto William Cammell and William Garrow each of them a Right or share in said Town under Certain Conditions in said Charter Mentioned, which Conditions the said Cammell and Garrow Have Totally

Neglected to fulfill, Whereby They have Forfeited their said Rights or shares and his Majesty is become Resiezed thereof

Your Petitioner Therefore prays your Excellency would grant your Petitioner the said Two Rights or shares of Land under such Conditions & Quit Rents to His Majesty as your Excellency shall think fit.

And your Petitioner as he is in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c.

SAMUEL LIVERMORE.

Portsmouth June 18th 1770.

Deposition of Samuel Eaton.

The Deposition of Samuel Eaton of New Holderness who Testifies & Says that he had Lived in New Holderness about Five years and has been acquainted with said Town ever since the first settlement Thereof, and that William Cammell and William Garrow both being Grantees in said Township have not nor either of them Cultivated any land in said Town nor done any thing Towards the settlement of their Rights Therein or any part thereof and further this Deponent saith not.

Samuel Eaton.

Province of New Hampshire } May 30th 1770. The said Samuel Eaton personally appeared and made solemn Oath to the truth of the foregoing Deposition, Taken In perpetuam Rei Memoriam Before us.

John Newmarch } Justices of the
Reuben Kidder } peace, unis Quorum

Deposition of Thomas Vokes.

The Deposition of Thomas Vokes of New Holderness who Testifies and says that he has Lived at said New Holderness about Three years, and has been acquainted with said Town ever since the first settlement thereof and that William Cammell & William Garrow both being grantees in said township have not nor Either of them cultivated any land in said Town nor done anything towards the settlement of Their Rights Therein or any part Thereof, and Further this depot saith not

his
Thomas X Vokes
mark

Test. Richd Cutts Shannon.

Province of New Hampshire } May 31st 1770. The Said Thomas Vokes personally appeared and made Solemn Oath to the Truth of the foregoing Deposition, Taken In Perpetuam Rie memoriam. Before us,

John Newmarch } Just Peace
H. Wentworth } unis Quoram

Petition of Proprietors for extension of their grant.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, In Council

The Petition of Hercules Mooney and divers others, Proprietors of New Holderness, whose names are hereunto subscribed, Most humbly shews:

That the said Proprietors have clear'd much land in the said Township, and made considerable Improvement there, but have not hitherto been able to comply strictly with the Terms of the charter. That as the said Proprietors have nothing more at Heart than to compleat the settlement of said Town, and have already got twenty Families there and hope soon to see it in a flourishing Situation, They most humbly pray your Excellency (with advice of His Majestys Council) That such further time may [be] given to your Petitioners and the rest of the proprietors to compleat the said settlement as to you in your great wisdom shall seem meet. And your Pet^{rs} as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Hercules Mooney
John Sheperd
Thomas Ellison
Archelaus Miles
Andrew Baker
William McCrillis
Jacob Shepard
Charles Bamford
Charles Bamford Jr
Francis Drew
Daniel Evans

Portsmouth 22^{d} Jan'y 1772.

Petition to send a Representative.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Capt General Governour & Commander in Chief of said Province of New Hampshire &c, &c.

The petition of the Subscribers being Freeholders & Inhabitants of New Holderness in the County of Stratford in said province of New Hampshire, Humbly sheweth that no more than four of the towns in said County send representatives to the General Assembly & that none of those are situated in the upper part of said County, That the upper part of said County is increasing & has lately increased, with Surprising rapidity & that the Priviledge of sending representatives to the general assembly always has been & is Esteemed a great incouragement to the inhabitants of this province, and as the said town of New Holderness is likely to become the most considerable town in that part of said county, your petitioners humbly pray the said priviledge of sending a representative to the next

general assembly, may be extended to them, and your petitioners as in Duty bound, shall ever pray &c.

New Holderness, January 31st 1774.

Bryan Sweeney	Thomas Shepard
William Ellit	John Shaw
Charles Cox, Jr	Joseph Hicks
Willm Blair	Samuel Gains
John Blair	Charles Cox
William Blair Jr	Charles Cox ye 3d
John Heron	Joseph Cox
Andw Smyth	William Cox
Thos Vokes	Richard Shepard
William Moor	Jacob Shepard
Saml Wallis	John Ennis
Saml Livermore	Joseph Shapard
Samuel Sheperd	William Pipar
Samuel Curry	John Shepard.

HOLLIS.

[This town was originally a part of Dunstable, being, as early as 1743 the West Parish of that town. It was incorporated 3 April, 1746. Ed.]

Petition for a Committee to locate the Meeting-house.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Govr &c The Honble His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Genl Court assembled &c.

The petition of Stephen Aims of Holles in Behalf of himself and Sundry other of the Inhabitants of the said Town Humbly sheweth: That the Inhabitants of that part of Old Dunstable were by the Massachusetts about seven years ago Incorporated into a parrish taking about three miles more eastward than their town line now Runs:

That while under that Incorporation a meeting house place was agreed on justly situated as was then apprehended tho' a meeting house was not then Erected. The Settlement being new the additional Inhabitants settled as near that place for the sake of being in the middle of a town as they could:

That by the late Incorporations here about three miles of the East end of the Parish is taken to Dunstable which Brings the East line of Holles within one mile & an half of where the meeting house place was agreed to as aforesd

That the west line of the town is near upon Five miles to the West of sd Place and some Inhabitants already settled to

the Out Side; And agreat deal of Land there good for settlements that cannot be accomodated else where which as we apprehend Renders that place very unequall & unjust, Notwithstanding there is at present the major part of ye Inhabitants accomodated to that place, there setling there occasioned by the apprehension of it being the middle of the town (tho Nothing in proportion to the selleable Land else where, who have voted that same place again for that use and have agreed to Raise a meeting house there next Wednesday that some of us your Peti^rs^ with some Others since in the whole applyed to the select^n^ for a meeting Further to know the minds of the town and to Consider of the unreasonableness of its being sett in that place, but the Laws of this Province Requiring thirty Subscribers (our town Consisting of but about fifty might well be expected Impracticable) was refused and should the meeting House be now Raised and finished it would be very unequall much Discourage the settlement of the west part and as soon as any considerable number more is settled must be pulled Down, Many Changes in Hyways and we be Loaded with great Charge as well as leave Room for much Contention and disturbance.

Wherefore your Pete^rs^ most humbly pray that your Excellency & Hon^rs^ would consider of the premises, and appoint a Committee att the charge of this town or as your Excellency & Hon^rs^ shall order to view our situation and circumstances, and to order where the Said House shall be Erected and in ye mean time to Direct that the Raising ye House now Framed may be deffered till that can be done & your Peti^rs^ as in Duty Bound shall pray.

STEPHEN AMES.

In Council read &c.
recommended Aug. ye 11, 1746.
R. Wibird, pro Sec^re^

Province of New Hamp^r^ } Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of the town of Holles do hereby desire & Impower Stephen Aims in our names & behalf to peti^n^ the gov^r^ & Council or whole Gen^ll^ Court of the province of New Hamp^r^ & Represent our circumstances in erecting a meeting House in s^d^ Town in a place we apprehend unreasonable & pray for Relief in the Premises.

Dated at Holles ye 5th of August 1746.

Joseph M^c^Daniell	Jasher Wyma n
Stephen Ames	Isaac Farran
William Admes	Jonathan Melven
Saml Parker	John Melven
Moses Proctor	James M^c^Daniell
James Whiting	Randel M^c^Daniell
Samuell Douglass	

Petition of Samuel Cumings for protection against the Indians.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General, Governour and Commander in cheif in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honble His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened the 2^d^ Day of April 1747.

The Humble Petition of Samuel Cummings of Hollis in said Province yeoman in behalf the said Town of Hollis, Shews, That the said Town is a Frontier Town & much Exposed to Danger from the Indian enemy and the number of Effective men belonging to the same not exceeding fifty who have all or most of them families to take care of & being mostly new Setlers have much Labour on their hands to subdue & cultivate their Lands &c; That their situation is such that they dare not venture to work without a guard & their work so great & disproportion'd to their strength Especially Including their necessary care of Defending themselves that they are unable to perform it without assistance which if they cannot have they must unavoidably neglect their Husbandry & spend their time in watching & warding & in that case many of their families must suffer for want of necessaries of Life;

That they are apprehensive of the Great charge the Government is now at & that the case of the said Town is doubtless the case of other Places in this Regard & therefore would desire nothing more than appears to them to be absolutely necessary which is, and for which they Humbly Pray that they may be allow'd a scout of ten or a dozen men for the Ensuing season till the Danger of the summer & fall of the year is over & the harvest past who may be a guard to the People of the Town while & where they may have occasion of working in places of Danger or to be otherways Imploy'd for the safety of the People as the commanding officer or Officers of the Town should Direct an l your petitioner shall as in duty bound in behalf of his constituents ever pray

SAM^ll^ CUMMINGS

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 14th May 1747.

Voted, That in answer to the annexed Petition the whole of the Lands in s^d^ Town of Holles be taxed annually for four years next ensuing two Pence p^r^ acre to be apply'd for the support of the ministry & finishing ye meeting House & that they be enabled to collect ye same and that they have Liberty to bring a Bill accordingly

D. Peirce, Clr.

In the House of Representatives 16th May 1747
It is farther Voted, That ye Inhabitants of sd Holles make it appear by an account to be render'd annually to ye Genl Assembly that the money has been apply'd for ye uses abovesaid on pain of refunding ye same

D. Pierce, Clr.

In council Eodm Die,
read & concurrd,
Theodore Atkinson, Secry

Eodm Die
Assented to
B. Wentworth.

Petition for a Tax on non-residents' lands.

Province of New Hampshire } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Govr &c. The Honble his Majs Council & House of Representves in Genll Assembly Convened March 31st 1747.

The petition of Saml Cumings in Behalf of the Town of Holles Humbly Sheweth:

That the sd Town has Lately settled a minister and are now a building a meeting House for the publick worship of God there;

That the Setlers of sd Town has but Lately entered thereon and altho a considerable progress in agriculture has been made (the only way we have for our support) yet find these Charges very burthensome;

That a Considerable part of the best Lands in sd Town belong to nonresident proprs who make no Improvement;

That by the arduous begining the settlement & heavy charges by us already paid has greatly advanced their Lands, & they are still rising in Value, Equal as the Resident proprs tho the charges hitherto and for the future must Lye on ye Setlers only unless we obtain the assistance of this Honble Court;

Wherefore your Petr most humbly Prays that yr Excellency and Honrs would take the premises into your consideration and grant the Whole of the Lands in sd township may be taxed annually for five years next cuming two pence new tennor p acre to be apply'd for the support of the minister & finishing ye meeting house and by Law enabling us to collect the same, & yr Petrs as in Duty Bound shall pray &c.

Samuell Cumings.

In Council April 1st 1747.
read & Sent Down to the Honble Hoase
Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Prov. of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives April 1st 1747,

Voted, That ye Petitioner be heard on his Petition ye third Day of ye settlng of ye Genl Assembly after ye first monday in May next and that ye Petitioner at his own proper cost advertise ye publick two or three weeks Successively between this day & ye aforesaid third Day of ye setting of ye Genl Assembly in one of ye publick News papers of ye matter of ys prayer of this Petition that every one may have opportunity to Shew cause if any they have why ye Prayer of sd Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce, Clr.

In Council April 2d 1747.
Read & Concurr'd.
Saml Solly Pro Sec'y

Eodem Die, Consented to

B. Wentworth.

Petition for dividing the Province into two Counties.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Govr &c, The Honble His Majestys Councill & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Convened at Portsmo ye 9th of April 1754.

Wee the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the Province of New Hampr on the Western side of Merrimack River, Would Humbly Remonstrate: That the Extent of the settlement of this Province is upwards of One Hundred miles westward from Portsmouth the Place where all the Courts are held. That the Difficulties of travill and Expence to and from Portsmouth on all County Emergencies Lays the western Inhabitants under Insuperable Disadvantage, and Occasions Great Delay to the Parties & Jurors who necessarily attend the courts of Judicature and tends Greatly to the Impoverishment of the Province: That we Humbly apprehend these Grievances might be in some good measure Redressed by Dividing the Province into two Countys, which also would be a means of a great Increase of Inhabitants & Improvements on the Western parts of this Government. Wherefore we humbly pray that your Excellency & Honrs wou'd take the premises into Consideration and Divide the Province into two Countys by such Dividing line and with such Powers and Authoritys as in your wisdom shall be Tho't best and as in Duty Bound shall pray

John Cumings
Zedekiah Drury
William Sanbo
Zechriah Lawrince
John Boynton
Samuel Jewet
Ezekel Jewet
Niclas French
Daniel Emerson
Francis Worcester
Josiah Conant
Francis Worcester, Jr

John Hale
Saml Cummings
Nathl Townsend
Nathl Townsend, Jr
Phinehas Hardy
Step Jewet
William Tenney
Benja Abbot
Christopher Lovejoy
Jacob Blanchard
John Brown
Francis Phelps
John Boynton, Jr
Samll Farley
Jonathan Melvin
Peter Powers
Saml Goodhue
Elias Smith
Saml Brown
Thos Nevins
Abraham Leman
Peter Wheeler
Benja Blanchard, Jr
Enoch Noyes
Jonathan Lovejoy
Edward Carter
Whitcom Powers
Stephen Aimes
Stephen Powers
William Adames
Waldo Emerson
Abraham Densmoor
Saml Barret
Benja Blanchard
Nathaniel Blood
Moses Smith
Josiah Brown
Benja Aston
Thos Asten
John Asten
Moses Procter
Samuell Leman
Samuell Leman, Jr
Stephen Hazelton
Thos Woulley (?)
Thomas Chamberlain
Samuel Borge
Peter Wheler, Jr
Stephen Harris
Robt Colburn
James Wheeler
Jonathan Taylor
William Colburn
William Colburn Jr
David Nervins
John Goodhue

Pine Hill (*a part of Hollis*) *Petition relating to being set off from Hollis.*

May it please your Excellency; The Honorable Council & House of Representatives;

I am desir'd in behalf of a number of people at one Pine Hill in Dunstable, to beg the prayer of their petition may be granted Relating their being set of to Holles, & that Your Excellency & Honors may have a Just Idea of the matter, Represent it as follows, Viz: about the year 1747 a Com^{tee} consisting of five persons were appointed by the Govr &c (Two of which belong'd to Dunstable) to view the Lands about Merry mac River, to see in what manner it was Best to Bound them in the Incorporation, & when they went on the Business, went no Further westward than the Old Town of Dunstable, A com^{tee} from Holles came down, & Desird the com^{tee} would go & view the situation of Holles & Pine Hill, & urg'd it hard, but the com^{tee} could not be prevailed on to go any further that way (the opposition we judge was made by Dunstable) whether to Hinder an Impartial survey or not, we dont pretend to say; but in the conclusion we apprehend were greatly in-

jur'd by that Com^tees Determination, soon after Dunstable was Incorporated they got into partys about settling Mr Bird Each Courted Pine Hills assistance, promising to vote them off to Holles as soon as the matter was settled; and so Pine Hill was fed with sugar Plums for a number of years till at length Dunstable cast off the mask & now appears in their True Colours which was in the first place to get us Joyn'd & Incorporated with them Tho' much to our disadvantage & Expectation when we settled there For under the Government of the Massachusett we belonged to Holles, & in consequence of which we help'd Build a large meeting house, & it was set to accommodate us, & help't to settle a minister, not in the least Doubting but we should always belong their, & besides well knowing we could never be accommodated by being Join'd with Dunstable, but not withstanding all this; we were put to Dunstable by this committees Determination, (and all by reason we humbly conceive of their not viewing our situation,) we have ever since attended the worship of God at Holles & paid our Taxes to lhe minister there, Tho in the mean time we have ben call'd upon to pay ministerial Rates with Dunstable in a full proportion with the rest except some Trifling Abatements they made us in order to keep us quiet.

We know of no other Real Objection that Dunstable has to our going off, But Reducing them to too small a number to maintain the Gospel, but if their Inclinations may be Judg'd by their practice, it cant be tho't they have any Inclinations to settle a minister, as for other Taxes we shall not be against doing what is reasonable, but allowing it would hurt Dunstable, that ought not to hurt us, who when we settled there never Expected to have any Concerns with them as a Town, That for Dunstable, because they gain'd us in the Incorporation (and as we apprehend verry unjustly) now to hold us so much to our prejudice, we think we have just cause of complaint. Dunstable as it lys now Consists of about one hundred familys, and all we ask to be set off is but about Twelve. That After we are taken they will be more in number, & better able to support a minister, than many Towns in the Government, that dos it, That their opposition must arise from some other Quarter, to keep us as whips for one party or the other to Drive out every minister that comes their, for they are always Divided with Respect to these things, & which ever side we take must carry the day. All we want is, that the case may be Impartially considered, & beg the favour that a committee may be appointed who shall go up & view the places in their circumstances that a Sincere representation may be made.

Sam^ll Hobart, attorney.

HOPKINTON.

[This town, originally called New Hopkinton, was granted by Massachusetts; it was incorporated January 11, 1765, under the administration of Gov. Benning Wentworth. Ed.]

Petition of New Hopkinton for an act of Incorporation.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General & Governour in Chief, in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and To the Honble his Majestys Council in the Province aforesaid:

The humble Petition of ye Inhabitants of the Place, or Plantation called New Hopkinton in the Province aforesaid, Whose names are here unto Subscribed, Sheweth,

That whereas your humble Petitioners are very desirous to have Gospel Order & a Gospel Minister regularly settled among us & maintained; & to have proper Orders and in our secular affairs, so that we may live and act in all our affairs as becomes a Christian Society, and that every one among us may be Obliged to bear his equal part according to his Ability of ye charges of supporting such Regulations; which we cannot attain to under our present Circumstances: We therefore humbly pray that your Excellency & your Honors would grant us Relief by in corporating into a Township that Tract of Land commonly known by ye name of N° 5 of ye Line of Towns granted, & laid out by order of the General Court of ye Province of ye Massachusetts Bay, or New Hopkinton, included within the following bounds viz. Beginning at the southeasterly Corner at a Norway Pine tree, with stones about it spotted on four sides and marked on the Easterly side with the Letter R and on ye westerly side with ye letter H. Then running West, five degrees south six miles, to a Hemlock tree with stones about it, spotted on four sides and marked on ye Easterly side with ye letter H, & ye Figure 5 & on ye Westerly side with ye figure 6. Then running North, fourteen Deg. West six miles, to a white Oak tree with stones about it spotted on four sides & marked with ye figure 6 on ye Westerly side & with ye numeral Letter V on ye Easterly side; Then running East five Deg. North, three miles, to a stake in a Boggy meadow spotted on four sides and stones about it; Then running North, fourteen deg. West about 130 rods to a River on which Almsbury men built a saw mill, to a heap of stones in the middle of the River a little way below the said Saw mill, where it also joins to the southwesterly Corner of Contoocook. Then running east fourteen deg. north by a part of Contoocook, three miles to a stake & stones, ye stake spotted on four sides, where it also joins to ye Northwesterly Corner

of Rumford so called. Then running south fourteen Deg. East by Rumford about Six miles & three quarters, to ye first mentioned Bound containing about 36 square miles and by putting us into a Regular method to call Town meetings legally; so that we may injoy ye Powers & Priviledges which other Towns in this Province injoy. For which goodness your humble Petitioners for your Excellency, & Honours as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Dated at New Hopkinton, October 27th 1757.

Samuel Pudney
Joseph Easman
Aron Kimball
Joseph Pudney
Enoch Easman
John Putney
Daniel Anis (?)
Caleb Burbank
Peter How
Jonathan How
Joseph Ordway
Matthew Standle
Abraham Colbe
David Woodwell
Thomas Easman
Joseph Easman, Jr
John Chadwick
John Ordway
John Burbank

Petition of New Hopkinton for power to lay a tax on 4-5^ths^ *of the Land &c* 1757.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Captain General & Governour in Chief, in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire; To the Honble his Majestys Council; & To the Honble Representatives of the several Towns in this Province, in General Court assembled.

The humble petition of the Inhabitants of the Place, or Plantation called New Hopkinton in the Province aforesaid, whose Names are here unto subscribed, sheweth:

That whereas your humble Petitioners have ventured our Lives, & been at a great Expence to settle cultivate and defend a new plantation far in ye Wilderness & much Exposed to ye Indian Salvages, & have beèn destitute of Town & Gospel Priviledges hitherto; and when at any Time we have had ye Gospel preached to us for a little while at a time, it has been chiefly at our own Expense, with but very little help from ye Non-resident Proprietors; and yet ye value of their Land is greatly increased by our living here, & defending it; and at ye same time, ye Burden, Hazzard and charge of settling a New Plantation lies upon us chiefly while they have a greater share in ye Benefit than in the charge of said settlement; which Things we think to be something hard, but are not able to redress, under our present circumstances; Therefore being Encouraged by your goodness & Paternal care Extended of Late to other new settlements or Plantations we humbly apply ourselves

to your Excellency, & your Honours praying that you will take our case into your wise Consideration & remedy our difficulties by impowering us to lay a Tax upon four fifths of ye Land in our begun Plantation (so much of it as ought to be taxed to publick charges) of three pence upon an Acre; or so much as you in your great wisdom shall think to be necessary & Sufficient to defray ye Charges of settling & maintaining a gospel minister, building a House for ye publick Worship of God, & other necessary incident charges (The one fifth part of said Plantation being reserved by ye gentlemen Purchasers of John Tufton Mason Esq. free from charge till improved) Also your humble Petitioners pray that your Excellency & your Honours would provide some Effectual Method to inable us to collect ye said Tax as well from nonresident Proprietors who live in other Provinces, as from resident Proprietors, & who live in this Province: For which Goodness, your humble Petitioners for your Excellency & your Honours, as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated at New Hopkinton, October 27th 1757.

Samuel Pudney
Joseph Eastman
Aron Kimball
Daniel Anis
Joseph Pudney
John Putney
Enoch Easman
Caleb Burbank
Peter How
Jonathan How
Joseph Ordway
Matthew Standle
Abraham Colbe
David Woodwell
Thomas Easman
Joseph Easman Jr
John Chadwick
John Ordway
John Burbank.

Petition relative to Province Tax.

To the great General Court of the Province of New Hampshire.

We whose names are hereunto Subscribed Inhabitants of New Hopkinton in this Province humbly inform & represent to the Hon^bl^e^ General Court that whereas we understand that an order was sent here sometime last summer or Fall, for a Province Tax, directed to the selectmen of New Hopkinton, and was carried back again because there were no such persons to leave it with, And not because we are disobedient to Authority or unwilling to do our Part to defray the Publick charges of the Province.

But we are under two difficulties especially: One is with Respect to those persons who are settled in that part of New Hopkinton which is claimed by Bow; For an account was taken of their estates with the rest within New Hopkinton

claim, pursuant to an Order of the General Court, And last year the Province Tax was proportioned to them with the rest of New Hopkinton, & paid by all together and that in season—and they are willing to pay so still, if that may be allowed, & accepted for them; & if the General court will be pleased to join them with the rest of New Hopkinton, at least to pay taxes with the rest, And if they should not be joined with the rest to pay the Province tax, we humbly conceive that the sum required of us would be a heavier burden upon the rest than was designed by the court, when the Tax for New Hopkinton was assigned. The other difficulty is our want of power to chuse selectmen to assess, & a collector to collect the Tax, & to oblige every one to pay their respective Parts of said tax.

If the Honble General Court will be pleased to take these things into their Consideration and to apply a Remedy, In regard of those that live within that part of New Hopkinton claimed by Bow, either by joining them with the rest, so that they shall be obliged to pay their part of Taxes as well as the rest, or by Separating them from the rest, so as to have no concern with the rest about paying taxes And then abating from the rest so much of the tax as those would have paid, if they had all paid together, as they did last year. Also if the court will be pleased to enable us to assess & collect the Tax either by appointing & impowering selectmen, & a collector or giving us Power to chuse them, we are ready to pay all due obedience.

And if the Treasurer sends his order again for the whole Tax which he sent for last summer or for so much as is our due to pay Exclusive of those that live in Bow claim, if they should be separated from the rest in regard of paying Taxes we will pay it to the Treasurer with all possible speed.

And we had rather pay our part of Taxes Every year yearly than to have the Taxes of several years to pay at once.

The names of those Persons the account of whose Estates was taken with the rest tho' they lived or owned land in that part of New Hopkinton claimed by Bow, are as follows.

The widow Susanna Kimball	William Peters
Abel Kimball	Hezekiah Foster
Timothy Kimball	Jeremiah Kimball, Jr
Timothy Clement	Thomas Jewell
Eliphalet Colby	Reuben Kimball
Green French	Daniel Watson
John Chadwick	Obadiah Perry
Abraham Kimball	Joshua Bailey
Jeremiah Kimball	John Kimball
James Kimball	John Jewell
Moses Straw	Parker Flanders
Jonathan Straw	Isaac Colby &
John Eastman	Thomas Hoit.

The Reasons why an account was taken of the Estates of those that lived or owned land in that part of New Hopkinton claimed by Bow are as Follows:

1st Because the order sent by the General Court for taking account of Estates was left by the Sherriff that brought it, with one of the men that lived in Bow claimed.

2d Because one of the men that were impowered by the selectmen of Boscawen to take account of the Estates in New Hopkinton was one of those men.

3d Because it was their own desire.

4th Because Canterbury selectmen who took account of Estates in Rumford extended their accounts no further than Rumford Claim.

We are your Excellencys & your Honours' Obedient & humble Servants.

Joseph Pudney
John Putney
Abraham Colbe
Matthew Standle
Enoch Eastman
Peter How
Jotham How
John Gage
Isaac George
Thomas Eastman
Joseph Eastman
Caleb Burbank
David Woodwell
Zebediah Watson
Ezekiel Straw
John Burbank
Jacob Straw
John Blasdell
Isaac Chandler
Jeremiah Kimball
Wid. Susanna Kimball
Joshua Bayley
Abel Kimball
Timothy Kimball
Moses Hill
John Chadwick
James Kimball
Moses Straw
John Easman.

New Hopkinton April 30, 1763

In Council June 3d 1763.
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of New Hampshr } In the house of Representatives June 8th 1763. This petition being read, Voted,

That the prayer thereof be granted so far as that the petitionrs be allowed to Bring In a Bill Impowering them to collect the province Tax & obliging those persons mentioned as claimed by Bow to pay with them till there shall be a new proportion made for collecting thereof.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council June 8th 1763,
Read & concurred,
T. Atkinson Jr. Secry

Petition for power to sell common land.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor & Commander in Chief in & of His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Hon. His Majestys Council & General Assembly for & of said province:

The petition of us the Subscribers, Proprietors & Inhabitants of New Hopkinton so called in said Province Humbly Sheweth:

That a part of our said Township is covered by the claims of the proprietors of Bow, That several of our said Proprietors living within said claim, have already purchased of said proprietors of Bow their claims within said Cover, that we suppose it communicative Justice that the whole charge of Purchasing said Land as also the Charge of law suits respecting and relating to said Lands be defreyed by our said propriety in equal shares That by selling so much of our common & undivided Land in said Town would be easiest to us for that purpose, That we suppose ourselves unable Validly so to do, and therefore pray your Excellency & Honours to favour & enable us with an act whereby we may be so capacitated, or such other act or acts conducible to said end as your Excellency & Honours in your great Wisdom shall see meet—And your Petitioners shall as in Duty bound ever pray.

Hopkinton Feb'y 8, 1762.

Matthew Stanley	Joseph Chandler
Enoch Easman	Peter How
David Woodwell	Jeremiah Kimball
Joseph Easman	Obadiah Parry
Joseph Putney	Timothy Clement
Ezekiel Straw	John Chadwick
Jotham How	Jonathan Straw
John Burbank	John Easman
Isaac Chandler, Jr.	Tim° Kimball.

New Hopkinton, February 8th 1762.

In Council January 19th 1763,
Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of New Hampshire. } In the House of Representatives Jany 19th 1763.

This petition being read, Voted,

That the petitioners be heard thereon the first Wednesday In March next if the General Assembly be then sitting if not then on the Second day of their sitting next after, & that they cause the Substance of this petition & order of Court thereon to be inserted three weeks successively In one of the Boston news papers, & In the New Hampsh^r Gazette, that any persons concerned may appear and shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Eod^m Die.
Read & Concurr'd,
T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of } In the house of Representatives
New Hampsr } June 3d 1763.
This petition being read, Voted,
That the prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioners have liberty to bring In a bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson Clerk.

In Council Eodem Die,
Read & concurred.
T. Atkinson Jr. Secy

Petition of sundry persons for an Act of Incorporation.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General and Governour in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire And to the Honourable his Majestys Council for this Province:

The petition of the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton (so called) including the Inhabitants of that part of Bow which covers a part of said New Hopkinton in the province aforesaid humbly *sheweth:*

That whereas your humble Petitioners are and have been ever since we first began to settle this place, under great Inconveniences and Difficulties for want of Town Powers & Privileges whereby the settlement of this Place has been much retarded & We therefore humbly pray your Excellency and your Honours to take our case into your wise consideration, and to Incorporate into a Town, with the Powers and Priviledges of other Towns in this province, That tract of Land which was granted by the gentlemen owners of the Right of John Tufton Mason Esqr to Messrs. Henry Millen, Thomas Walker & Thomas Millen, and their associates, commonly called New Hopkinton; & contained within the same Bounds & Limits; including that part of Bow which covers a part of said Tract of Land, yet not affecting any man's Property.

For which Goodness your humble Petitioners for your Excellency and your Honours, as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated at New Hopkinton aforesaid this fourth day of June, Anno Domini 1764.

Moses Emerson
Ezra Hoyt
Jonathan Straw
Joseph Judkins
Roland Judkins
Hezekiah Foster
Peter Sargent
Isaac Colby
Benja Jewett
John Jewett
Pelatiah Watson
Moses Jewett
William Eastman
Joseph Pudney
Joseph Eastman
Nathaniel Clement
Caleb Burbank
James Kimball
John Chadwick
John Gage

Jacob Straw
Joshua Bayley
Joseph Chandler
Benjamin Merrill
Samuel Kimball
Moses Gould
Samuel Putney
David Woodwell
Mark Jewett
Abraham Colbee
Moses Hills
William Peters
Matthew Standle
John Putney
Enoch Eastman
Abel Kimball
Peter How
Jotham How
Timothy Farnum
Isaac Chandler
Ezekiel Straw
Timothy Kimball
Abraham Kimball
Richard Merrill
John Eastman
Thomas Easman

Petition for Incorporation.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq[r] Captain General, and Governour in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire; To the Honourable his Majesty's Council, and To the Honourable Assembly of this Province, in General Court convened:

The Petition of the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton (so called) including the Inhabitants of that part of Bow which covers a part of said New Hopkinton, in the Province aforesaid, humbly *sheweth:*

That whereas your humble Petitioners are about to present a Petition to his Excellency the Governour & to the Honourable his Majestys Council to incorporate into a Town, with the Powers & Privileges of other Touns in the Province that Tract of Land commonly called New Hopkinton contained within the same Bounds & Limits which it was contained in when granted by the gentlemen owners of the rights of John Tufton Mason Esqr., to Messrs Henry Millen, Thomas Walker & Thomas Millen & their associates, including that part of Bow which covers a part of said New Hopkinton, without affecting any man's property: We, therefore, your humble Petitioners pray your Excellency & your Honours to annex that part of Bow which covers a part of New Hopkinton unto the said New Hopkinton, or that Tract of Land which commonly is known by that name in such a manner as is above expressed (if there be need of the Act & Authority of the General Court in the case) so that it may be corporated with the rest into a Toun (if his Excellency with the Council should see cause to grant our Petition for a Corporation) that so we may be in a Capacity to raise, assess & collect Taxes; both our part of the Province Tax, & also, to Defray necessary charges among ourselves in a regular & effectual manner;

For which Goodness, your humble petitioners, for your Excellency & your Honours as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated at New Hopkinton
aforesaid, this fourth Day of
June, Anno Domini 1764.

Joseph Chandler	Samuel Putney
John Eastman	David Woodwell
Beniamin Merrill	Peter Sargent
Samuel Kimball	Benj[a] Jewett
Thomas Easman	Mark Jewett
Moses Gould	Abraham Colbee
Moses Emerson	Moses Hills
Ezra Hoyt	William Peters
Jonathan Straw	Matthew Standle
Joseph Judkins	John Putney
Richard Judkins	Enoch Eastman
Hezekiah Foster	Abel Kimball
Moses Jewett	Peter How
William Eastman	Jotham How
Joseph Pudney	Timothy Farnum
Joseph Eastman	Isaac Chandler
Nathaniel Clement	Ezekiel Straw
Caleb Burbank	Timothy Kimball
James Kimball	Abraham Kimball
John Chadwick	Richard Merrill
John Gage	Isaac Colby
Jacob Straw	John[r] Jewett
Joshua Bayley	Pelatiah Watson

Prov. of New Hamp[r] In Council, Jan[y] 8th 1765,
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon[blc] Assembly.
Theo[e] Atkinson Jr. Secy.

Province of New Hamp[r] } In the House of Representatives, Jany 9th 1765,
This Petition being read,
Voted, That the Prayer thereof be granted & that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly.
A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council eodem die
Read & concurred
Th[o] Atkinson, jun. Secy

Reasons for said Petition.

Reasons humbly to urge and intreat a speedy Proceedure upon the petitions preferred to the Honourable General Court by the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton without the formality of a public Notification.

1st That all differences between Bow Claimers & New Hopkinton Proprietors, or Inhabitants about Property are adjusted so far that the claimers of that Part of Bow which interferes with New Hopkinton sell or settle said Land without opposition or Molestation, The Gentlemen who purchased M[r] Masons Patent having given to New Hopkinton Proprietors out of their fifth Part of said New Hopkinton, acre for acre for the land claimed by Bow Proprietors in said New Hopkinton.

2[d] The settlers on Bow Claim in said New Hopkinton are included in

the Petitions, and most if not all of them have signed them, which shows that it is their Desire that the prayer thereof may be granted.

3d The settlers upon Bow claim in sd New Hopkinton are incorporated with it by the District Act.

4th Some urgent circumstances seem to necessitate a speedy Remedy, as

(1st) The out-standing Province Tax for the years 1762, 1763 & 1764, for which the Treasurer says he must soon issue Extents unless a Remedy be provided and some Favour and Indulgence be granted to the people of New Hopkinton And also arrears toward the support of the Gospel in said New Hopkinton both together amounting to more than £3000 Old Tenor, which if required all of it to be paid in a short time in this time of Scarcity of Money would be a Burden very heavy upon & discouraging to that People: Therefore a speedy Remedy seems necessary. But if it be delayed for a formal Notification is not likely to be done before next May or June.

(2) Tho' an Act was made, more than a year ago to impower the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton &c to assess & collect the Province Tax, yet they never heard of the said Act; and consequently could not act in Conformity to it.

(3) The said Act did not furnish said people with Power to raise, assess and collect any arrear Tax either for the Province or to support of the Gospel or any way to promote the settlement of the place;

But if the Honble Court think, upon the whole, that the Prayer of the Petitions cannot be granted without a formal, publick, Notification, They are humbly intreated, by their most humble and Obedient servant, in Behalf of the Petitioners to Compassionate the case of the Petitioners (who dont at present know of their impending Difficulties) and to provide a speedy Remedy for them, either by an Act in addition to the district Act already made, or any other way that they shall think best, so that the Inhabitants may be invested with all the Powers & Priviledges of a Town; and that the officers who shall be chosen in said district to assess & to collect necessary Taxes there, may be impowered to Exert & Execute their respective offices about any arrears of former Taxes, as well as about future Taxes.

And where as said Inhabitants are in arrears of the Province Tax for the year 1762, 1763, & 1764 it is humbly submitted to the wise consideration of the honble Court whether it would not be too heavy a Burden upon the People to require them to pay it all in one year or in two years, besides the proper Taxes of those years, Or whether they may not be indulged now, (seeing they had not Power to assess and Collect those Taxes in the times when they ought to have been assessed & collected) so far as to assess & collect the arrear Tax for 1762 with the Tax for 1765, and the arrear Tax for 1763 with the tax for 1766, and the arrear tax for 1764 with the tax for 1767 so that they may have no more than two years Province Tax, to pay in a year till those arrears shall be fully paid & that orders may be given to the Province Treasurer accordingly; It is also humbly requested that if the District act should be enforced by an additional act, The Regulation made thereby may continue in Force till the General Assembly shall order otherwise.

Also, it is humbly requested (Because sundry of the Men mentioned in the District Act, as Settlers in the Township of Bow, either never lived there at all, but only had Land there which they proposed to settle on, & did not or else removed to some other Place since) That instead of mentioning those Persons by Name, there may be a clause which shall include all that part of Bow which covers a part of New Hopkinton, with all the persons who do now or shall inhabit the same during the continuance of this act.

Petition for a tax on non-residents.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, and Governour in Chief in, and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, To the honourable, his Majestys Council And to the honourable General Assembly of the Province of New Hampshire, in General Court assembled.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Hopkinton in this Province of New Hampshire humbly sheweth. That whereas we your humble Petitioners have been at great cost & charge in Settling a New Township, and settling the Gospel and maintaining it among us, Paying the Arrears of the Province Tax for three years which was not paid in proper season because we had no Power during that time to assess & Collect it (paying said arrears in three years after said tax ought to have been paid besides the proper tax of those years, in a Time of great scarcity of money, And in building an house for the public worship of God, with but a very little Help from the nonresident Proprietors & owners of Land in the Town) beside the additional Difficulties & Dangers which many of us suffered by living in a New Township at the outside of all the Towns in the province, in the Time of the late War and settling a Gospel Minister in that Time; And by what we have done & suffered in these Times the Land of Nonresident Proprietors and owners, which lies in the Town has been greatly increased in Value with very little if any Cost to them; and we your humble Petitioners cannot but think that they ought in Reason & Equity to bear part of the charges of what has increased the Value of their land as well as to enjoy the Benefit. We therefore your humble Petitioners humbly and earnestly pray, That your Excellency & your Honours would take our case into your wise & compassionate Consideration and in Order to making us some Relief under our heavy Burdens if you think proper would pass an act to lay a tax of one Copper (or one half penny sterling) per acre or so much as you shall think proper upon all the uncultivated Land in this town belonging to non resident proprietors & Owners for the space of five years or so long as you shall think proper, Except what land in the Town is Owned by the Masonian Proprietors and so long as it is owned by them: the appropriated Rights for the Ministry and school and what is owned by the minister of the Town.

And if your Excellency and your Honours shall be pleased to Grant our Petition in laying a Tax upon the Land aforesaid, We Humbly pray also that you would make Effectual Provision for us to assess said tax upon & to collect it from said non resident Proprietors & Owners of Land in the said town of Hopkinton. For which Goodness your humble Petitioners

for your Excellency & your Honours as in Duty bound shall Ever pray.

Dated at Hopkinton Aforesaid
October 1st 1767.

Voted, That Ens. Jonathan Straw prefer this Petition to the General Court.

Names of the Subscribers.

Gideon Gould	Timo Clement
Hezekiah Foster	James Scales
Abraham Brown	Samuel Putney
Ruben Kimball	John Putney
Wm Clements	Mark Jewett
Timothy Farnham	Moses Gould
John Gage	David Eaton
Joseph Standly	Abnar Gorden
Stephen Hoyt	Moses Eastman
Thomas Clark	Benja Rogers
Moses Hills	Aaron Greeley
Ezekiel *Stanley ?*	Jotham How
Peter How	Samuel Hoyt
John Hill	Sam Brackenbury
Moses Smith	James Smith
Ezekiel Straw	David How
Jotham How	Enoch Eastman
Isaac Colby	Jeremy French
Moses Straw	William Stevens
Isaac Chandler	Benjamin Merrill
Joseph Chandler	James Kimball
Eliphalet Colby	Joseph Putney
John Jewet Jr	John Burbank
Moses Sawyer	Moses Jewett
Thos Jewell	Abel Kimball
Joseph Judkins	Polard Judkins
Nathanael Merrell	John Blasdell
Elias Gould.	William Davis
Richard Merrill	Jeremiah Fowler
William Peters	Joseph Eastman
Benj. Wiggin	Caleb Burbank
Timothy Kimball	David Woodwell
Green French	John Eastman
Joshua Bayley	Thos Eastman
Zebulon Adams	Samuel Stanley
Nathaniel Clement	Ezra Hoyt.

Voted, That the petitioners have leave to Bring in a Bill for Laying a tax of one half peny sterling pr acre yearly for five years on all the Lands of Resident and non resident Proprietors except that part which was taken off from the town of Bow

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council March 16th 1768
The above Vote of the House read & Concurred.
Geo. King, Depy Secry.

Province of New Hampshire } Feby 11th 1768. In the house of Representatives upon Reading this Petition voted that the Petitioners cause the substance of this Petition to be printed in the New Hampshire Gazette as soon as may be & to continue it there for three weeks successively with notice that any person who has

any objection against the prayer thereof may be heard thereon on the third day of the setting of the General Assembly next after the Tenth of March next

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council 13th February 1768.
Read & Concurr'd.
Geœ. King Dep. Secy.

Province of New Hampsr } In the House of Representatives March 15th 1768. The within Petition being Considered and the petitioners and such as appeared to make objections heard thereon, Voted, ———

HUDSON—formerly Nottingham West.

[Incorporated 5 July, 1746, having previous to 1741 belonged to Massachusetts. Ed.]

Petitioners for a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Capt General and comander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England,

May it please your Excellency, According to your Excellencies direction, I hereby signifie to your Excellency that the whole Number of Proprietors and Inhabitants in the Towns of Nottingham and Litchfield within the Limits we petitioned for are forty five; and those who are willing and desirous to be erected into a Township or Parish (according to your Excellencies pleasure) have hereunto Set their names.

Nottingham.	*Litchfield.*
John Taylor	Nathaniel Hills
Eleazer Cumings	Ebenezer Spaulding
Nathan Cross	Daniel Hills
John Mash	Joseph Hills
William Cumings	Smith Hills
Roger Chase	John Hopkinson
John Robinson	Henry Hills
Edward Spaulding	James Hills
James Barret	Joseph Pollard
Moses Barret	Joseph Kedder
John Marshall	Joseph Kedder Jr
John Parker	Robert Melven
Josiah Cumings	Nathl Hills, Jr
Benjamin Greeley	John Huston
Thomas Mash	Ezekiel Hills
David Lawrance	Henry Hills, Jr
	Stephen Spaulding

If your Excellency will be pleased to erect us into a Town or Parish agreable to our Petition you will exceedingly oblige your most Dutifull and most obedient Petitioners

Litchfield.

NATH[l] HILLS } In the Name of some of the Proprietors & Inhabitants of the Towns of Nottingham & Litchfield.

Petition for Town privileges.

Prov. N. H. } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour, The Hon[ble] His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Gen[ll] Court Assembled at Portsmouth the 20th days of May 1743.

The Peti[n] of us the Subscribers Inhabitants & freeholders of the District called Nottingham Humbly sheweth:

That in the year 1732, Wee were on application made to the Gen[ll] Court of the Massachusetts Province sett off from the town of Dunstable a Distinct and seperate township with the Powers & Priveledges of a Town & thereby enjoyned & Required to Procure and settle a Learned orthodox minister amongst us & make provision for his Comfortable & Hon[ble] support, which in the year 1737 the town fullfilled but so it Happened contrary to our Knowledge or Expectation, The Running of the Line Between the Governments according to his Majestys Late Determination has taken considerable part of our Town into this Province, by means whereof, we are without the Power to manage our necessary affairs as a Body corporate & more especially to Raise and collect money for the support of the Rev[d] Nathaniel Merrill our Minister, according to our Contract with him;

That before the Running of the line assessments was made for the Ministers Rates Many Delinquents (on the Running the line) declared against paying, and continue to neglect it, tho no complaint of being over Rated.

That thereby the minister has suffered, & long been kept out of his Just Due.

That we Have not since the running of that Line been able in any Equal way to Raise his yearly Sallery.

That so much of our Improvements being left in the Massachusetts and our circumstances so Low Renders it of necessity for all the Inhabitants in our District to assist in payment, or it will be Impracticable for us to Subsist as a Society and

many difficult circumstances attending these things presses us Humbly to Supplicate, and In as much as this Honble Court has been pleased to look upon us as Subjects of the Government by Taxing us to the Support of it, which we Readily & dutifully comply with, we doubt not but Wee shall be owned as the children of the Same & obtain the Priviledges & protection other Inhabitants Enjoy:

Wherefore we most Humbly pray your Excellency & Hon^rs to take the premises into your consideration & Invest the s^d District of Nottingham (that is to say that part of Nottingham that Lyes in the province of New Hampshire) with the Powers & priveledges of a Town & enable us to Levy & collect the former Delinquent Rates or make some speciall Law that shall Relieve us in the Premises as in your great Wisdom shall be tho^t best, & as In duty bound shall pray.

John Butler
Henry Baldwin
Thomas Colburn
Joseph Winn
Henry Baldwin Jr
Joseph Hamblit
Thos Pollard
John Pollard
Joseph Blodget
George Burns
Joseph Snow
Hezekiah Hamblet
Samuel Grele
William Hamblet
Samuel Grele
Zacheus Woodwell
Sam^ll Huston
Joseph Blodget
Jonathan Hardy
John Marsh
Ezekiel Chase

Petition for a Parish.

To his Excellency Bening Wintworth Esq. Captine General & commander in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England.

Your Excellency with the rest of the Honourable Court may well remember that we your humble Petitioners a considerable time since put in a petition to ye General Court for a distinct town or parish which the Honourable Court shall judge most convenient & we still remain earnest in our desires that s^d petition may have a hearing, and that it may be acted upon when your Excellency with the rest of the Court shall think convenient, the reasons why wee desire to be a distinct town or parish are contained in our former Petition:

We live at such a distance from our respective meetings, that we look'd upon it that we were obliged to maintain ye Gospel amongst us, which we have done for almost three years, and from the encouragement that we had from time to time we have lived in hopes that we should be freed from paying taxes elsewhere, but since the late act made by ye Hon-

ourable Court to impower certain districts to raise money for ye support of ye ministry & other charges & our respective district have had meetings, & have raised large sums of money, not only for ye present year but for several years past as appears by their votes. And we look upon it as a Great hardship that we should be obliged to pay s^d^ rate for three reasons (Viz)

1st We live at such a distance from ye Places of Publick worship in our respective districts, that we cannot attend ye worship of God with our Families there.

2^d^ We have had a minister with us and are obliged to him for so much money from day to day, therefore we look upon it a hardship to pay taxes elsewhere.

3^d^ And there are some of us that have moved into these districts long since ye money was due that they now rate us for, this appears to be a hardship to such of us.

Therefore we your humble petitioners pray that your Excellency with ye others of ye Honourable Court would take these reasons into your consideration, & free us from these heavy burthens laid upon us, we have many of us borne a heavy burthen for a long time & we fear its growing heavier for we find none amongst us in our respective districts that will move it so much as with one of their fingers. Therefore as you are our Fathers we humbly apply ourselves to you for relief, & if in your great Wisdom think it not convenient as yet to erect us into a town, we beg that we may be aquited from paying the taxes that are served upon us, & that we may have the Priviledges of other Parishes or districts, till such times as we may be further answered in our request that so we may able further to maintain ye Gospel amongst us; these things we humbly ask & rest your humble Petitioners.

Dated at the District called Nottingham
September ye 19th 1743.

P. S. We that live in the district called Litchfield would acquaint your Excellency that at ye time of their settling a minister in this district that we entered our dissents but they proseded & settled a minister Contrary to our opinion, & we think it a hardship, that we should be Obliged to pay taxes to a Minister that is settled upon such a foundation that he is—which is Presbyterianism. This is Contrary to what we was ever acquainted with contrary to our opinion in matters of religion and Contrary to our minds to set under him as such.

Joseph Kidder
Josiah Cumings
Joseph Kidder Jr
Robert Dorah
Charles Dorah
George Burroughs Jr
William Cumings
William Campbell
Leonard Cummings
Edward Spalding
Ebenezer Spalding
Nathan Cross

Nathaniel Hills	Robert Melven
John Marshall	Stephen Spalding
James Hills	Josiah Burroughs
Eleazer Cummings	James Barret
Roger Chase	Moses Barret
John Robinson	David Lawrence
William Taylor	Nathaniel Hills Jr
Henry Hills	John Bradbury
Ezekiel Hills	Bradbury Morgan
Joseph Pollard	Josiah Dutton
Henry Hills, Jr	John Huston

Petition of selectmen for a hearing.

Prov. of N. Hamp } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Govr &c, The Honble his Majestys Councill & House of Repref^ves in Genl Assembly to be Convened The Sth of March 1747.

The subscribers selectmen of the Town of Nottingham West, would most humbly represent in Answer to the Petition of Josiah Cumings & Others Inhabitants of Nottingham West afores^d On the 2^d day of December 1747, Prefered to this Honble Court praying, That they might be Discharged both poles and estates from paying any thing towards the Support of the Ministry at s^d Nottingham so long as they attended Elsewhere &c. For the Reasons therein mentioned.

That notwithstanding the Order of the Honble Court for a hearing on s^d Petition had fully pass'd on ye Eleventh day of December last past, and the Hearing on s^d Peti^n was granted to be the second day of the sitting of the assembly after the tenth day of January then next ensuing, and that the s^d Genl Assembly was adjourned unto the 23^d day of this Instant February to be the first day of their sitting after the tenth of January afores^d, accordingly the 24th of this same February had they set as we Expected was the day appointed for the Hearing afores^d

Yett the Peti^rs (for ends to us unknown) did not serve the selectmen or either of them with a Copy of the s^d Peti^n or order of Court thereon nor any other ways Notifie them thereof untill the 17th day of this Instant February which left no more than six days for the Selectmen to Assemble Notifie and hold a town meeting & if the Town should think fitt to make answer & Shew Cause &c. and within the same six days to gett to Portsmouth (Fifty miles & upwards) and by this the Neglect of the Peti^ns Rendered it Imposible for the Town whose proper Right we conceive it was to make answer at the s^d Expected time, But we the select^n have proceeded & Notified a meeting of the s^d town to be held at Nottingham on the 7th day of March

next; To see if the town will Impower an agent to answer to the s[d] peti[rs] if there should then be occasion, Since which we are Informed that the s[d] Court is adjourned from the s[d] 23[d] day of February unto the Eighth day of March next the day by the aforesaid order of Court appointed for the hearing afores[d], And should the town proceed to appoint an Agent to make Answer in their Behalf yet it will be Impossible for them at this difficult season in one night, (the only time we have) to gett to Portsm[o] and attend at the Hearing afores[d] Wherefore we pray that in case the Peti[rs] should pursue their Peti[n] for a hearing that it may be continued such Reasonable time that the town of Nottingham may appear, if they shall at their meeting Desire it to shew cause why the prayer of the Pet[r] should not be granted &c.

Nottingham, West, February 29th, 1747.

JOHN MARSH
JOHN MARSHALL
SAMUEL GRELE
JAMES WESON
} Selectmen

Nottingham Dis. Jan[y] 30th 1745-6

We the Subcribers Inhabitents of the s[d] Distrect do hear by Sicknife our desier to be incorporated into a Distinct Town according to the Delineation which we now Lay in and shall for that prosicute any thing which may be expediant in the affair.

Joseph Butler
Joseph Caldwell. sn
James Gibson
John Mitchell
John Huey
Joseph Caldwell, Jr
John Caldwell
John Baldwin
Robert Evens
Amos Richardson
Ebenezer Dakins
his
Thomas X Richardson
mark
Daniel Dugless
Daniel Merrill
Sam[l] Merrill
Josiah Hamblet
his
Hugh O Richardson
mark
Jacob Butler
Joshua Hamblet
Joseph Hamblet Jr
John Butler
Thomas Gage
Hezekiah Hamblet
John Butler Jr
Joseph Wright
Samuell Jewet
Phinehas Spanels
Benj[a] Frost
James Warner
Onesephorus Marsh
James Marsh
John Hamblet
Samuell Butler
Eph[m] Cumings
Daniel Simonds
Ithbre Merrill
Thomas Burns
Samuel Gould
Richardson Cumings

May y[e] 12th 1746.

On the above s[d] Day a number of the propriators and other inhabitants of the District of Litchfield being mett to gather Did then nominate and appoynt Jacob Hildreth and James Carr to measure the line of Litchfield on the east side of meremack river from the uper end to the lower end thereof.

Prv of New Hamp } Londonderry May ye 13th 1746.

Jacob Hildreth and James Karr personaly appearing made oath that they would take a true measure of the district of Litchfield upon the east side of Meremack river, sworn before

John Goffe, Just Peace.

This may signifie the Earnest desire of us subscribers inhabitents of Notingham within the Province of the Massachusetts Bay whose interests in Lands lay considerably within the Destrict of Noting^m^ in New Hampshire

That the destrict may be continued to gether as a Town without the addition of any part of Litchfield, that we may attend the publick worship of God where we have formerly Injoyed it Being intirely cut of from all Privilege of injoying it other ways.

Capt Robt Fletcher
Daniel Fletcher,
Zacheus Spaulding
Lt. Samuel Gould
John Woodward
Robert Fletcher, jun.

Noting^m^ April 4th 1746,

May ye 16th 1746.

We the subscribers the within mentioned being chosen to measure the Distance of way from the upper end of the District of Litchfield to the Lower end, whereas according to our measure not allowing any for sway of chain, we make it eight miles and one half.

Jacob Hildreth
James Karr.

Vote on the question of Incorporation.

Province of New Hampshire } The District of Nottingham being assembled together at the meeting house this tenth Day of March 1745-6. By virtue of a Warrant Issued out by two of his Majesties Justices of the Peace unus Quorum; they past sundry votes, first made choice of Mr Thomas Gage Moderator, Secondly it was put to Vote to see if the District will signifie by a vote that they will be Incorporated into a Distinct town and it past in the firmitive.

John Hamblet yea
John Hue yea
Joseph Calwell yea
Ephraim Cumings yea
Joseph Wright yea
James Gibson yea
John Mitchell yea
Samuel Jewate yea
Benjamin Frost yea
Thomas Burns yea
Thomas Richardson yea
Hezekiah Hamblet yea
Capt Henry Baldwin yea
Phinehas Spaulding yea
Hugh Richardson yea
Daniel Merrill yea
In the firmitive.

Benjamin Tyng yea
Abel Merrill yea
Robert Nevens yea
Joseph Hamblet jr yea
Samuel Butler yea
Thomas Gage yea
Josiah Hamblet yea
Daniel Dugless yea
John Baldwin yea
Onesephorus Marsh yea
Jacob Butler yea
Ebenezer Daken yea
Joseph Gould yea
John Butler yea
James Wason yea
Joseph Caldwell jr yea

Thomas Pollard nay
James Barret nay
Robert Glaser nay
Joseph Blodget nay
Eleazer Cumings nay
John Marshall nay
Jonathan Hardy nay
Lie^{ut} Joseph Winn nay
Jeremiah Blodget nay
Dct Ezekiel Chase nay
Samuel Grele Jr. nay
In the Negative.

Lie^{ut} Joseph Snow nay
John Marsh nay
George Burns nay
Ens^{n} William Cumings nay
Samuel Burbank nay
Samuel Grele nay
Capt Thomas Colburn nay
Joseph Winn, Jr nay
John Marshall Jr nay
Samuel Hustone nay

Thirdly it was put to vote to see if the District will split the Town partly North and south And the Vote Past in the negative that article in the warrant to set of Hills farm was Dismissed by a Vote—fifthly the District chose Mr Thomas Gage Mr Ephraim Cumings and Mr John Butler as a committee to treat with the Courts Committee and Represent the circumstances of the District to them.

A true Copy from the District Book,
as attest,

Samuel Grele
District Clerk.

Petition of John Marsh for a land tax to build a meeting-house.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, To the Honble his Majesties Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened 14th July 1747.

The petition of John Marsh of Nottingham West, of said Province, yeoman, in behalf of ye Inhabitants of said Nottingham West as well as on his own Humbly Shews:

That by ye late settlement of ye Boundary Line between this & ye Province of ye Massachusetts Bay, a number of ye Ablest of ye Inhabitants of s^{d} Nottingham West are taken of from us & so consequently we must loose their assistance under ye present heavy Burthen that is upon us, and that by s^{d} settlement of s^{d} Line ye present Situation of our Meeting house is such that it is altogether useless unto us as a Place for ye publick Worship of God & therefore must be obliged to build a New one and that your Petitioners live exposed to ye Indians whereby we are much taken off from our Daily Labour: Your Petitioner therefore most Humbly prays your Excellency & Honours that you wou'd in your great Clemency be pleased to Subject by an act all ye lands in s^{d} Nottingham to tax of two pence an acre P annum for five years next ensuing to help us in our present distress'd circumstances

to build a New Meeting House, purchase a Parsonage & more comfortably to support our present Revd Pastor & to lay a Foundation for y^{e} future Support of y^{e} Gospel Ministry among us and y^{r} Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray

JOHN MARSH.

In Council, July the 15th 1747.
Read & Ordered to be sent Down to the Hon$^{b.le}$ House.
Theod^{r} Atkinson Secry.

Prov of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 15th July 1747

Voted, That y^{e} Petitioners be heard on their Petitions y^{e} Second Day of y^{e} setting of y^{s} Genl Assembly After y^{e} first of Sep^{t} Next & that y^{e} Petitioners at their Own Cost Advertise ye publick two or three Weeks Successively in ye post Boy or Evening Post News papers so called of ye Prayer of s^{d} Petition that so any one may shew Cause if any there be why ye Prayer of s^{d} Petition should not be granted.

D. Pierce, Clk.

In Council July 15th 1747.
The above Vote read & Concurrd.
Theod^{r} Atkinson Secry.

Eod^{m} Die
Assented to B. WENTWORTH.

Prov of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 10th March 1747,

Voted, That ye Prayer of ye within Petition be granted for one penny Pr Acre & that ye petit^{rs} have Liberty to bring a Bill Accordingly.

D. Pierce Clr.

Eod^{m} Die. In Council
read & Concurr.
Theod^{r} Atkinson, Secry
March 11th Consented to,

B. WENTWORTH.

Prov of New Hamp^{r} } June ye 8th 1747.

The town of Nottingham west made choice of Mr John Marsh to apply to Courts to get the Lands Belonging to this Town laid under a tax.
A true Copy as attest

Samuel Grele, Town Clerk

Petition for Nottingham W. to be included in the West division of Counties.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq & the Hon$^{b.le}$ his Majesties Councill & house of Representatives in Gen^{ll} Assembly Convened at Portsmth the 9th of April 1754.

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of Nottingham West in the province of New Hamp^{re} would humbly represent that inasmuch as a large number of the Inhabitants of this province have Remonstrated the necessity of dividing this Province into two Countys by such dividing line as shall be thought best & in as much as this town of Nottingham West lys at such a

great distance not less than fifty miles from Portsmouth & adjoining to merrimack river, & shall always be accommodated with the western County & shall be under the utter most inconvenience, if we have always to travel to the Eastermost part of the Province for County Business, therefore we most Humbly pray that when your Excellency & Hon^{rs} shall see meet to Erect this Province into two Countys that the Dividing Line may Include this Town in the west Division & Incorporated to do duties & Receive Priviledges there & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Ezekiel Chase
Thomas Colburn
Joseph Winn
Stephen Chase
Samuel Grele
Saml Grele, Jr
Ebenezer Blodget
Benjamin Taylor
William Taylor
William Cumings
Ebenezer Cumings
John Marshall
Josiah Dutton
Daniel Marshall
Henry Hills
Ezekiel Grele
Joseph Pollard
Samuel Marsh
James Hills
Jeremiah Hill
Jon^{a} Blodget
Jon^{a} Hardy
Saml Page
John Pollard
Ebenezer Pollard
Thos Pollard, Jr
Moses Grele
Isaac Waldron
David Dow
Joseph Blodget Jr
Samuel Hills
Josiah Cumings
John Marsh
Edward Spalding
Thomas Lenard
Josep Lovel
Nathan Cross
Peter Cross
Eleazer Cumings
Eleazer Cumings Jr
Thomas Keney
Abraham Page
Timothy Emerson
Joseph Winn Jr
Benj^{a} Winn
Benjamin Whittemore
Jeremiah Blodget
James Blodget
Joseph Blodget
David Lawrence
Stephen Chase, Jr
Henery Chase
George Burns
Ebenezer Dakin
Samuel Merrill
Nathaniel Merrill
Daniel Merrill
Samuel Merrill, Jr
Thomas Brown
Samuel Burbank
Jonathan Hardy
Jonathan Blodget
James Wason

Petition of Nottingham relating to fish in the Merrimack river.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor &c of the Province of New Hamp^{r} The Honourable his Majestys Council and house of Representatives of said Province.

We the Subscribers being Inhabitants of Nottingham West & Dunstable do Humbly request of your Excellency & Hon^{rs}

to make some addition to the act relating Restraining the Fishing in Merrymac river as the Preservasion of the Fish is of Considerable Consequence to us, we would be glad therefore That the utmost care might be Taken of them.

We beg Leave to Suggest to your Excellency & Hon^{rs} that the Constant Fishing at the Falls with Pots weares Scoop or dip nets should be restrained as well as Constant Fishing with Seaves and that all obstructions may be Removed out of the River the days Fishing is Prohibited and that proper water courses may be left in the Dams that are made Cross the Streams that Run into Merrymac river where Fish comonly pass and also that the Towns be directed to choose Proper Persons to see the act is duly Observed and all offenders Punished and your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

Dated at Nottingham West, June ye 4th 1764.

Nathl Merrill	Henry Hills
Josiah Duston	David Larance
Amos Kinney	Ebenezer Cumings
Nathaniel Davis	Josiah Cumings
Jose Pollard	Benj^{a} Kidder
Edward Spaulding	Thomas Lancey
Daniel Marshall	Thos Clark
Ezekiel Hills	Benj^{a} Marchall
Joseph Kelly	Samuel Pollard
Thomas Pollard	John Bly
Jeremiah Blodget	Amos Pollard
Reuben Spaulding	Benj^{a} Winn
Noah Lovewell	John Huey
Samuel Marsh	Henry Huey
Oliver Hills	Jno Caldwell Jr
Thomas Marsh	Eph^{m} Cumings
Ezekiel Grele	Peter Cumings
Benjamin Dutton	Samuel Page
Ebenezer Pollard	Ephraim Cumings, Jr
Thomas Campbell	David Cumings
Ebenezer Blodet	Peter Cross
Robert Stuard	

Province of New Hamp^{r} } In the House of Representatives June 14th 1764, This being petition Read, Ordered,

That the petitioners be heard thereon the Second day of the sitting of the general Assembly after the first day of August next And that the petitioners at their own Cost cause the Substance of this petition & this order of Court thereon to be advertised three weeks successively In the New Hampshire Gazette, that any persons concerned therein may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In council June 16th 1764.
Read & concurr'd,
T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Another Petition relating to the same.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Govr &^{c} of the Province of New Hamp^{rs} the Honble his Majesties Council & house of Representatives of s^{d} Province

We the Subscribers Petitioners being Inhabitants of this Province Humbly Sheweth that we greatly rejoyce that your Excellency and Honours have taken the Preservation of the Fish in Merrimack River into Consideration and have pass'd an act to Restrain ye Practice of Fishing in s^{d} River Constantly, But as we apprehend the act as it now stands is not Quite Sufficient to answer the Salutary Ends propos'd to be done by s^{d} Act.

We would therefore desire your Excellency and honours to take the premises under consideration & by some additional act to restrain the fishing with Dip or scoop nets at the falls in s^{d} River where fish are usually taken with those nets, and also that all obstructions may be removed from ye passes in Falls where fish usually pass, so as those places may be clear on the Days fish are allowed to pass, and that fish may not be hindered by any ways or means whatsoever from having a free course up ye River, on the day prohibited to fish, and that the Obstructions may be removed that are now in Sundrey streams that run into Merrimac River Where fish commonly pass or Sufficient courses left for the fish to pass during the Term of their Running both up and Down such Streams, and we Further beg Leave to Suggest to your Excellency and Hon^{rs} that the Towns adjacent to the River may be Directed to choose proper Persons to see that the act is Observed and all offenders duly Punished.

June 4th 1764.

Stephen Chase
Thomas Hamblet
John Bloget
Jonathan Bloget
Ebenezer Bloget
James Caldwell
John Glover
David Merril
Stephen Morss
Rowland Rideout
Benj. Rideout
Benj^{a} Smith
Abraham Bailey
Thomas Colburn
George Burns, Jr
Andrew Seavey
Justis Daken
William Cox
Edward Cox
Benj^{a} French
Seth Johnson
Joseph Winn
Abiathan Winn
Jeremiah Bloget
Ebenezer Pollard
Ezekiel Chase
Saml Greele
Benjamin Messer
Ezekiel Chase, Jr
Henry Deves ?
Joseph Lovel
Thos Blanchard, Jr
Thos French
Nathan Winn
Nathanael Merrill
Nath Merrill Jr
Jonathan Lund
William Lund
Phinehas Lund
James Taylor
Nehemiah Lovewell
Nathaniel Greele

Province of New Hamps^{r} } In the House of Representatives June 14th 1764.

This Petition being read, Ordered, That the petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the first Day of Augst next & that the petitioners at there own Cost, cause ye substance of this petition & this order of Court thereon to be advertised three weeks successively In the New Hampshire Gazettee that any persons concerned therein may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

Depositions.

(1) Of Thomas Pollard.

Thomas Pollard of Lawfull age Testifyeth and saith that he was at the house of Mr John Marshes in Notingham West upon the second day of Octr Last past & he saw Capt Joseph Killey and John Chase and Joshua Beadel and Amos Pollard and sundry other persons there and he heard Amos Pollard say their is nothing to be done here at this time Let us go home upon his s^{d} Pollard saying so hear Capt Killey tell John Chase and Joshua Beadel to take said Amos out of the house & put him into the Brook upon which said Chase & Beadel fasned upon said Amos Pollard and Draged him out of the house, and Capt Killey followed them out of the House with a large stick and wip fastened to the End of it, and brok the stafe or stick of said wip all to peaces about him said Amos, his head the said Chase holding him fast while said Killey beat him said Amos, And After he broke his own stick he twicht A large walking staff out of the hand of deacon Greeley and splintered it all to peaces about said Amos' head & body till said Amos Cryed murder and After upon Examining the head & body of said Amos there was large Gashes in his head &^{c} and further saith not

And the Deponent further saith that these facts was not committed upon a muster day.

his
Thomas ⋈ Pollard.
mark

(2) Of Benjamin Marshall.

Benjamin Marshall of Lawfull Age Testifieth and, that he was at the hous of Mr John Marsh of Nottingham West at or near the 2^{d} day of Octr Last past and that he came with Capt Joseph Killey to Said House aforesaid and that as soon as Capt Killey came to the house of the said Marshes there was a grate number of parsons their and as soon as he came in he said to the Company present that if any man Gave him the lye to Day he would Hors wip them and their arose a dispute between one Davise and Killey Upon which Capt. Davis aserted something said Killey said was a lye & said Killey threatened him by holding and shaking his whip over his head. Then Amos Pollard who was present said com Daviss let us go along for their will be nothing don here to Day, upon which Capt Killey ordered John Chase to take s^{d} Pollard out of dores, upon which said Chase fasned upon him and drew him out of dores, upon which I told said Chase let Pollard go, dont burn your own fingers, upon which Chase let him go, then said Killey ordered said Chase to take pollard and duck him in the brook & he would bear him out in so doing upon which said Chase & Joshua Beadel fasned him

again and Capt Killey followed out and struck said Pollard several times with the butt of his horse whip which broke and then he went to deacon Greeley and took his walking staff out of his hand and struck s[d] Pollard over his head and broke the staff all to peaces while the said Chase & Beadel held said Pollard, and further saith not. And the Dep[t] farther saith, these facts was not on a muster day.

Benj[a] Marchall.

Province of New Hampshire } Litchfield March the 2[d] 1765.

Parsonally appeared the within and above named Thomas Pollard Benjamin Marchall and after due caution & cairfull examination maid solemn oath to the Truth of the foregoing Deposition by them Respectively signed, and that it is the Truth concerning the things they Relate too which affidavits were taken at the Request of a Number of the Inhabitants af Nottingham west to be in perpeatuam Res memorium.

Before us,

John Goffe } Quorum
James Underwood } unis

JAFFREY—formerly MONADNOCK, No. 3.

[This town, formerly known as Monadnock, No. 3, was incorporated in 1773, by the name of Jaffrey, for Hon. George Jaffrey, of Portsmouth. ED.]

To Mr Josiah Willard, Sir.

This may certefy that it is the Desire of Each of us Hereafter named that you would Draw or cause to be Drawn a Suitable Petition for the Incorporation of our town and Lay the same Before the Govenor and Counsel with our names annext thereto.

Monadnock N[o] 3,
March 14, 1771.

Eli Morse	Benj[a] Mason
Jos. Greenwood	Moses Adams
Sam[ll] Twitchel	John Wright
W[m] Greenwood	Moses Mason
Jos. Adams	Ebenezer Twitchel
Asa Norcross	Thomas Morse
Josiah Greenwood	John Muzzy
Elias Stone	William Beal
David Morse	Benj[a] Lerned
John Knowlton	Robert Muzzey
Elias Knowlton	Jos. Twitchel
Reuben Morse	Ezra Twitchel
Daniel Morse	Levi Partridge
John Barnstead	Thades Mason

We are generally of the mind to have our town named Troy.

JEFFERSON—formerly DARTMOUTH.

[This town was first granted under the name of Dartmouth, Oct. 3, 1765; re-granted June 26, 1772, and first settled about the year 1775. ED.]

Petition to extend the time for making settlement.

Province of New Hampshire:

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Governor & Commander in Chief and The Honorable His Majestys Council.

The Petition of Josiah Willard & others humbly sheweth.

That your Petitioner having been favor'd with the Grant & Charter of the Township of Dartmouth sometime since which said Charter specifys the first Period of settlement of twenty Families to be in the month of December 1773; but wch they apprehend was a clerical Error in filling up the Charter and ought to have been as originally intended December 1775, a compliance with the first Term being utterly impracticable in that distant part of the province. They would therefore humbly beg the s^{d} Mistake may be rectifyed & the Time for bringing on the first twenty Settlers be Extended to the month of December 1775. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall over pray.

JOSIAH WILLARD

Portsmouth 11th Febry, 1774.

VOLUME IV.

KINGSTON TO NEW BOSTON.

KINGSTON.

[This town was incorporated, August 6, 1694, under the administra- of Lieutenant-Governor John Usher; and comprehended what now forms the towns of East Kingston, Fremont, and Sandown. Ed.]

Original grant or Charter.

William and Mary By the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland King and Queen Defend^r^ of the Faith &c.

To all people To whom these presents shall come greeting Know ye that we of our Special Grace Certain Knowledge and mere motion for the due Encouragement of settling a new plantation by and with the advice and Consent of our Council have given & Granted and by these presents as far as in us Lies Do give and Grant unto our Beloved Subjects,

James Prescott Senior
Thomas Philbrook Jr.
Samuel Colcord
Saml Dearborn
Jacob Garland
Ebenezer Webster
Benjamin Sandburn
Daniel Moulton and
Isaac Godfrey
Gershom Elkins
Thomas Webster
William Godfrey
John Mason
Nathaniel Sandburn
John Moulton
Francis Toule

and Several others of their Majestys Loving Subjects that Inhabit or shall inhabit within the said Grant within our province of New Hampshire all that Tract of Land to begin seven miles Westward of the meeting house now Standing in Hampton from thence to run a Due course West and By North Ten miles into the Country for its Breadth four miles, Northerly from the Head point of the West Line from the said meeting house and Southerly within Three miles of the Northermost side of merrimack river and that the same be a town Corporated by the name of Kings Town to the persons above named or other of their Majestys Subjects that do and shall for ever, and we do by these presents give and grant unto the said men and Inhabitants of our said Town of Kingstown and to such others that shall hereafter inhabit all and every the streets and Lanes & Highways within the said Town for the publick use and service of the men and Inhabitants thereof & Travellers there Together with full power License and authority to the said men and Inhabitants and such as shall inhabit within the said Town forever to establish, appoint Order & direct the establishing making Laying out ordering amending and Repairing of all streets Lanes Highways Ferries places and Bridges in and throughout the said Town necessary needful and convenient for the men & Inhabitants of the said Town & for all Travellers and Passengers there provided always that our said License to as above granted for the establishing making & Laying out of such Lanes Highways, Fences places and Bridges be not extended nor Construed to Extend to the taking away of any person or persons

Rights or property without his or their consent or By Some Law of our said province To have & to hold and Enjoy all and Singular the premises as aforesaid to the said men & Inhabitants or those that shall inhabit the said Town of Kingstown and their Successors forever Rendering and paying therefor to us our Heirs and Successors or to such other officer or officers as shall be appointed to Receive the same yearly the annual Quitt Rent or acknowledgement of one pepper Corn in the said Town on the 25^{tu} of October yearly forever and for the Better order Rule & Government of our Said Town We do by these presents Grant for us our heirs and successors unto the said men & Inhabitants or those that shall inhabit the said town that yearly and every year upon the first Tuesday in march for ever They the said men and Inhabitants and such as shall inhabit the said Town shall elect and chuse by the Major part of them Two sufficient and able men Householders of the said Town to be Constables for the year Ensuing which said men so chosen and elected shall be presented to the next Quarter sessions of the peace to be held for said province there to take the accustomed oaths appointed By Law for the Execution of their offices under such penalties as the Law in our said province shall direct upon Refusal or neglect therein and We Do by these presents Grant for us our heirs and Successors unto the said persons and Inhabitants and such as shall inhabit in said town. That yearly and Every year upon the first Tuesday in March for ever, They the said men and Inhabitants or the Major part of them shall elect and chuse Three Inhabitants and Householders within our said Town To be Overseers of the poor & Highways or select-men of our said Town for the year Ensuing with such powers, Privilidges and Authoritys as any Overseers or select men within our said Province have and enjoy or ought to have and Enjoy.

In Testimony whereof we have caused the seal of our Said province to be hereunto affixed. Witness John Usher Esq. our Lieutenant Governour and commander in Chief of our said Province at our Town of New Castle the 6th Day of August in the sixth year of our Reign annoque Domini 1694.

JOHN USHER Lt Govr

William Bedford Depy Secry.

Copy Exam^{d}

Theodore Atkinson, Secry

Province of New Hampshire March 1st 1743
Entred and Recorded According to the Original.
Pr Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Copy Exam^{d}

Pr George Jaffrey, Clerk.

Petition for the re-settling of Kingston.

To His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq. Governour and Commander in Chefe of Her Majesties Provinces of the Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and to the Honourable the counsell Now sitting att Portsmouth this 2^{d} of May 1705.

The Humble petition of Thomas Philbrick and Jonathan Sanborn in the Name and behalf of severall others who have a desire to settell Kingstowne. Humbly Sheweth.

That whereas the inhabitants that was settelled att say^{d} Kings town formerly did for some pretences or other withdraw and Remove in a disorderly way from said Kingstown as we Now find greatly to the Damage of the then Inhabitants, We having taken a list of the names of those that have entered ther names to goe and settell there in the Fall of the year We humbly pray that we may Have orders for the Resettling of s^{d} Kingstown accordingly, and your poor petitioners as wee are bound for a Blessing of God upon your proceeding shall for Ever pray.

THOMAS PHILBRICK
JONA SANBORN

Upon reading the petition of the Inhabitants of Kingstown praying, to whom ordered that the petitioners have liberty to return thither at Michælmas provided they be not less than thirty familys that they lay out in the centre of this place a forty acre lott for ye parsonage and that they settle an able orthodox minister within three years next Cuming & they have leave to renew their Grant with these conditions.

Read in Councill the 2^{d}
May and approved off
Cha. Story Secretary.

Prov. N. Hampsh

Voted, That the town of Kingston be Excused from sending a Representative and paying any part of ye Province Charge for the present year, Provided they assist the scouts with pilots at their own Charge whenever Required.

May 9th pr Order of ye House
Samu^{l} Keais, Clerk.

Consented to by the Councill
Chas. Story, Secretary.

Petition to be clear of public charges.

To His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq Capt Generall & Governor in Cheife in & Over Her Maj^{ties} Provinces off the Massachusetts & New Hampsh^{r} &^{c} And to the Honourable the Council Now sitting at Portsm^{o} together with the Representatives in General Assembly.

The Humble Petition of the Poore Inhabitants of the Township of Kings Town within said Province of New Hampshire Sheweth.

Whereas the Inhabitants of said Towne have hitherto on acc^{tt} of the Warr been clear'd from all Publick charge and the Enemy now insults us as much as Ever: And theire now being a representative required of us, Our circumstances being in a very low Condition and the Enemy like to be as trouble some as Ever they have been—

Yo^{r} Petitioners therefore Humbly prays yor Excell. & the Hon^{r}able the Councill that wee may as yett stand on the Es-

tablishm^{t} wee did before till such time as yor Petitioners are better able wee humbly Submitt our selves to w^{t} yor Excell. & the Hon^{r}able the Councill shall Judge meet.

Soe prays yor Humble Petitioners

Jon^{a} Sanburn,
In behalfe of ye town.

Upon reading this petition the Council Declares, that they are very sensible of the good services of the inhabitants of Kings town and the Hardshipps they labour under in and shall use all methods for their Encouragem^{t}

And therefore Recommend to the Representatives the prayer of being Eased of the present tax and of the attendance of a Representative Dureing the present distress untill further Order

In Council 8th May 1712.

Cha: Story Secretary.

Petition to be discharged from cost of Road, &c.

To the Honourable John Wentworth Esq Lt Govr & to the Honourable The Councill & House of Representatives now sitting in Genl Assem. at Portsm^{o} for his Maj^{ties} province of N. Hamp^{r}

The petition of Saml Easman representative for ye Town of Kings town in behalf of said Town sheweth.

That the Honble The Court of Genl Q^{r} sessions of the peace held at Ports^{mo} The first day of march last were pleased to make an ord^{r} that the town of Kingstown afores^{d} should pay half the Charge of Laying out a high road Through ye town of Hampton wch your petitioner does humbly conceive is not to be supported or favoured by any laws or customs whatsoever but that the said Ord^{r} of sessions is opposite to an act of This prov. & past in May 1719, Entitled an act about high ways &c

Whereupon yor petitioners do humbly pray that the said Order be made null & void as to the part of Kingston afores^{d} & that the said Town be discharged of that ord^{r} & yor petitioners shall Ever pray as in Duty bound.

Saml Easman
Jon^{a} Sanburn.

Voted, That ye Case between Hamton & Kings town be brought on again to ye next q^{r} sessions for a second hearing between town & town and that Each town be notified accordingly

Hen. Sherburne, Clk Asst

In Coun
Eod^{m} die Concurrd.
R. Waldron.

Petition for abatement of Province tax.

To the Honabell John Wintworth Esq our Lev[t] Governor and Comander In Chefe In and Over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire In New England and to your honours of His Majestyes Councill, and to those gentlemen of y[e] house of Representatives now Convened together att our Generall Cortt held att Portsmouth in said province this 18th day of May 1725.

The Humbell address of y[e] subscribers to these presents being the selectt men for Kingstown In said provence for this yeare, Humbly Sheweth.

That Whereas wee make bold to make this our humbell deseire and Request unto your hon[rs] yett we hope you will pardon our Boldness In so doing and that your hon[rs] would Consider our sad Surcomstances that wee live under by living In a fronteer town and so small a town and so Exposed to y[e] Indian Enemy and our Rates are so hevey upon us that we cannot tell how to pay it, therefor we humbly pray your honnours to Consider us and to medigatt sumthing of our provence Rates & may it please your hon[rs] wee have Latly lost Sundrey men of Considerable Estates In our town some by the Enemy and some by Sixness whare by we are the more unabell to pay so much as we have done and we are so much y[e] more weker as to men In our going out to our worke dayly and we are so Exposed to danger of y[e] enemy dayly, that wee hope In your wisdom you will Consider us as to the thing wee pray to your hon[rs] for and likewise that wee might not have any of our men Impressed from us be cause we Lay so Exposed to y[e] Enemys and Every day whare ever wee goe to work we are as it ware upon duty.

All this things Considered by your honnours If your hon[rs] see cause to help us as to those things above mentioned wee shall Return your hon[rs] Humbell thanks as in duty we are bound &[c]

Kingstown May
y[e] 17th 1725.

JOSEPH FIFIELD
EBENEZER STEVENS
TRISTRAM SANBORN
JOSEPH GRELE
JOSEPH SLEEPER
} Selectmen for Kingstown

Petition for a township.

Wee the subscribers of Kingstown haveing gone through many difficulties & Great & Long & Tedious Wars & very Ex-

pensive & trouble some, so great that the greatest part of the inhabitants of our Town were forced to sell their lands to support their families—But through the goodness of God we are yet preserv'd & much Increased & have many sons to settle in the world we have not land for them because our inheritances are in ye hands of strangers, & inasmuch as ye neighbouring towns about us have had a considerable priviledge by their new township to them granted wee also desire an Inheritance among our Brethren & Therefore present our Humble Request to his Excellency the Governor & Councill &^c^ for a Town ship as followeth, beginning att Ammoskeag Falls & to extend five miles up the River & five miles down ye River & Ten miles wide five on each side & in so doing y^r^ Honn^rs^ will very much oblige us his Majestys subjects.

Mr Ward Clark
Ebenezer Stevens
Capt Jonathan Sanborn
John Fifield
Joseph Fifield
Moses Elkins
Joseph Clough
Ebenezer Webster
Joseph Grele
Samuel Tucker
Benjamin French
Jeremy Webster
John Darlin
Phinehas Batchelder
Samuel Welch
Ichabod Clough
Ebenez^r^ Eastman
Joseph Eastman
Thom^s^ Eastman
Elisha Sweat
Ebenez^r^ Collins
Theophilus Clough
Ebenezer Sleeper
Richard Clifford
Benjamin Wadleigh
Samuel Robie
Nathan Batchelder
Elisha Windslow
John Ladd
John Webster *Ter*^s^
Ralph Blasdel
John Young
Samuel Lock
Jacob Merril
Theophilus Griffin
Joseph Young
Joseph Bean
Jeremiah Quimbee

Elijah Blasdel
Samuel Bean, Jr
Moses Rowel
Thomas Webster, Jr
William Bussel
John Webster Jr
Cornelius Clough
Thomas Dente
Elias Renas
Benjamin Webster
Samuel Judkins
Joseph Sleeper
Jonathan Chote
Samuel Webster
Samuel Colcord
Aaron Sleeper, Jr
Isaac Griffin
Benjamin Sweat
Benjamin Eastman
Samuel Sanborn
John Gillman
Enos Johnson
Jonathan Sanborn, Jr
John Huntoon
Samuel Fifield
Thomas George
Andrew Webster
Joseph Young, Jr
Daniel Ladd
Samuel Emmins
Philip Hoyt
Daniel Blasdell
John Carter
Samuel Eastman
John Osillaway
Nathanael French
Isaac Griffin

7 ber ye 11th 1730.

Another Petition for a Township.

To His Excellcy Jonathan Belcher Esq. Capt Generall and Commander in Cheif in and over his Majtles Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honble His Majties Councill for sd Province.

The Humble petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Kingstown in said Province whose names are annexed hereunto in a Schedule by their Order most humbly sheweth.

That your petitioners haveing thro' Great Expence and many Difficulties Subsisted & held their Towns Possession in a Long and Tedious warr with the Indian enemy yet a great many of them to subsist themselves and familles hath been Obliged to sell ye greatest part of their Lands and some their Stocks of Cattle, and haveing many Children now Grown up and fitt to go out and setle for themselves and many more growing up; That will want the like setlemt and your Petitioners the antient Inhabitants what with the sale they were obliged & necessitated to make as afforesaid, and the Incroachments of the Province of Masst on them, they have not any Lands to setle their Children on or scarcely to Subsist their families They therefor most humbly pray that as most of ye Towns in this province have had grants of Townships to them and none as yet granted to yr Petitioners that may have a Grant of a Tract of Land at Amasceaug of about Eight Miles Square (or as yr Excellcie & honrs shall see most meet) and yr Petitioners shall as in duty bound Ever pray.

Ebenezer Stevens, by order.

Read and Suspended till next session
R. W. Secry.

Petition of East Parish about division of lines.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Capt. Genll & Governor in cheife in & over his majesties Province of New Hampr in New England and to the Honble his Majesties Council & Representatives in Genll Court assembled Jan. ye 31st 1739–40.

The Petition of the Subscribers (a Committee Representng the East parish in Kingstown) Humbly sheweth.

Whereas it hath graciously pleas'd this great & Genll Court to set off sundry of the Inhabitants of the Easterly part of Kingstown in sd Province themselves, Their families & estates to be a distinct Parish from the Town for which great Goodness we return our Humble & hearty thanks, But yet finding many difficulties & Inconveniences in our present State viz:

There haveing been sundry more Inhabitants Liveing among our Inhabitants who have Petitioned the town that they might be sett off to our Parish; who accordingly granted their Request & in their capacity set them off to us yet we apprehend that we have not sufficient Power to Execute the Law upon them in case there should be occasion for it particularly in regard of our Taxes; also there are others settled & a settling among us who are far more Convenient to us than to the town: & again there are considerable of Lands intermixed with ours which is not inhabited & belongs chiefly to out Town men, which we have no power to Rate; further when any persons come to settle as Tenants upon the Lands so intermixed as above s[d] which may be Likely to be a publick charge, & so may in time be a great Burthen to your s[d] Parish, we have no power to warn them off or Restrain them under these & other difficulties, which your Excellency & Hon[rs] in your wisdom may discover: Wee now again Humbly apply ourselves to your Excellency & Hon[rs] praying that you will be pleased to perfect that which yet concerneth our full settlement & sure establishment by fixing some line of division between our s[d] parish & the Town of Kingstown according to your great Wisdom & Goodness & Justice, Respecting both us & our Brethren & friends in the town.

And so shall wee as in duty Bound ever pray.

Joseph Grele	Ralph Blasdel	A com[tee] chosen to Represent the East Parish in Kingstown
William Boynton	Jeremy Webster	
Nathan Bachelder	Benjamin Morrill	
John Webster		

In the House of Representatives
Feb. 2[d] 1739–40

The within petition Read and Voted That the Petitioners serve the selectmen of the West part of Kingstown with a copy of the petition, at the petitioners charge & that they appeare to be heard the twelfth of y[r] Curr[t] to Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted

James Jeffry Clr. Assm.

In Coun. Feb 6th 1739–40
Read and concurrd.
Rich[d] Waldron, Secry

Feb. 6th 1739–40.
I assent to the above Votes J. Belcher.

In the House of Representatives Feb[y] 13th A D. 1739–40

The within Petition read, and the parties heard by their Council and the House Having considered thereof, Voted, That Mr Thomas Packer & Capt Edward Hall be a committee of this House to Joyn with Such as the Hon[ble] the Council shall appoint to go & view Boath parts of the Town of Kingstown, In the recess of the assembly and according to the best of their Judgm[t] to be where it will be most convenient for a Line between the Easterly pish & the old pish (or westerly part of the s[d] Town) may be made the said Committee to make their return to

the Gen^{ll} Ass^{m} the third day of the next sitting of the Gen^{ll} Assembly & y^{t} the petition^{rs} pay the whole charge.

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^{m}

In Coun. Feb. 15th 1739–40.

Read and concurrd & R. Waldron aud Eph^{a} Dennet Esq. appointed to Joyn in the service above.

Richd Waldron, Secry

Same day Assented to

J. Belcher.

Remonstrance against a new Parish.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Captain General & Governor in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire the Honourable his Majesties Council & Representatives in General Court assembled.

The Humble Petition of the Subscribers a Committee for the first Parish in Kingston, Humbly sheweth

Whereas at the Last session of the Hon^{bl}^{e} Court a number of the Inhabitants of the East part of Kingston did prefer a Petition to the hon^{bl}^{e} House signifying their willingness and ability to support the ministry and a school & here upon were set off their families Persons & estates as a distinct Parish Notwithstanding they were gratified in this thir Request they have been Incessiant in their Demand upon the First Parish Particular to run a line Between the Two meeting houses which we understand by their explanation of themselves could be no other way adjusted than by taking The Half Distances Between the two said Meeting Houses on the Salisbury Rhode thence running due north to Exeter Line and South to Almsbury Bounds And to add thirteen men to their number But conscious of our poverty and Exposed situation we let them know that we apprehended their Demands were very unreasonable inasmuch as we had many more Poor Persons amongst us then were with them who had bin Impoverished by the warrs, Haveing bin obliged to sell the best of their Lands to their fathers in their Extremity for very small consideration To support their familys and we have had great Rumours of a war and are very much Exposed and must be obliged to keep Garrisons which besides the Exposing of our Lives and fortunes would be to us the loss of Each mens Labours one Day in a week Nearly which would Something Exeed Their Parish rates Besides the charges of supporting the ministry in our own Parish.

Nevertheless we offred them Sutch a line as would circumscribe their Estates with the Estates of the thirteen above mentioned and all the Vacant lands intermixed with theirs

which upon their request we have set off to the said East Parish. This grant we have made them in hopes they would have been Easy tho we are fully sencible that their might be named some one farm in their Parish of Greater Income than some twenty livings amongst us. If we speak of the petition now lying before your Excelly And Hon^rs we apprehend y^r we ought to Expose their Designs Tho not Exprest for a line to Incompass their estates we do not oppose but Should be free to settle Imediately & would have done it without trouble to the Honble Legislature But to have Persons and familys torn of from us or mens Estates torn to Peices and divided meerly to gratify their unreasonable restless & insatiable desires is all that we would humbly Remonstrate against and Earnestly Request your Excell^y & Hon^rs in your Great wisdom and compassion prevent & fix such a line Between us as shall incompass their estates and leave ours intire to this first parish and your humble Pettioners shall ever Pray, &c.

Simeon Brown
John Swatt
Moses Sleeper
Joseph Fifield
Nathl Smith
Thos Webster
} Committee

A leagel meeting held by ajornment ye 26th day of October voted that those men her under writen both thay & theire Estates shall be set of to the east Parish in this town to pay both ther town rate minister & school Rate there which being according to there own petition & de sire.

Joseph Bean
Obadiah Elkins
Ralph Blasdel sener
John Grifien
John Fifield
Tho Grifien Jr.
Joseph Sawyer
Ralph Blasdel, Jr
Henry Bagely
Jeremiah Curier
William Stevens
Ebenezer Blasdel
Edward Prescot

This is a true copy taken out of Kingstown book as ates by me
Tristram Sanborn
town clerk for Kingstown.

A Leagel anual town meeting held in Kingstown march ye 6th 1739.
1^ly Leftenant John Sweet was chosen moderator for that meeting.
4^ly It was put to voate to see wheather they wod set of the Est parish of s^d town by a line and it went in the negative
This is a true copy Taken out of Kingstown Book of reacords as atest by me,

Tristram Sanborn,
Town clerk for Kingstown

To Samuel Winslow Jedidiah Philbrick & John Huntoon Selectmen:

Kingstown Septemb^r the 1st 1740.

Whereas the Gen^ll Assembly of this province have stated & Settled he Boundary between the Parishes in this town establishing & fixing

the persons & their estates or parts of their Estates, whose Estates or part of them fall to the East of s[d] Boundary to the first Parish Providing they shall within one month Give under their hands to the selectmen their desire to remain with the s[d] first parish.

These are to Certifie you the Select men that its our desire & design to be accounted of & do duty and Enjoy priviledge in s[d] first Parish as witness our hands.

John Swett
Tristram Sanborn
his
William X Buswell
mark
Cornelius Clough
William Long
Simon French.
Samuel Eastman
Ebenezer Eastman
Isaac Clifford
Elisha Swett
Peter Sanborn
Jidediah Philbrick
Abraham Sanborn
Ebenezer Stevens, Jr
William Buswell, Jr
his
Philip X Moodey
mark
Jonathan Blake
Richard Long
Benjamin Clough
his
Ely X Bedy
mark

Benj[a] Judkins
Moses Sleeper
Benjamin Sleeper
Joseph Clifford
Jonathan Sleeper
Samuel French
his
John x Moodey
mark
Thomas Sleeper
Nathaniel Smith
Joseph Young
Nathanael French, Jr
Samuel Fifield
Jonathan Sanborn
Benjamin Magoon
Benjamin Stevens
David French
John Sleeper
Samuel Judkins
John Judkins
Tristram Sanborn Tert.

This is a True Copy as witness our hands.
September y[e] 26th 1740

Jedediah Philbrick } Selectmen
John Huntoon } of Kingston

A true Copie of the
pre mentioned Copie. Attest

Jeremy Webster
Just of Peace.

Petition of Jedidiah Philbrick for partition of real estate.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor & Command[r] in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire The Hon[bl e] His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Gen[l] Assembly Convened Dec. 1st 1743.

The Humble petition of Jedidiah Philbrick of Kingstown in s[d] Province as Agent or Attorney for Mary Sewall widow, Jonathan Bradley & Susanna his wife & Samuel Bradley & Mary his wife & Josiah Foulsam, Shews, That John Foulsam Late of Exeter in said Province Yeoman Deceased Died In-

testate Siezed of a Considerable Estate (the administrat^{n} of wch was Granted to the s^{d} Mary Sewall being then the widow Relict of the s^{d} deceased) & left issue the said Susanna, Mary, Josiah, & another Child since Deceased. That three of the said Children were young when their said father died & the s^{d} Josiah was born after wards the bringing up of which children & the Debts Due from the s^{d} Dec^{d} with sickness funeral Charges & other necessary Expenses Call'd for most if not all the personal Estate But so it happens that the said Adm^{r} is not able to Render any Certain acco^{t} of her Administra^{n} Especially as it is near twenty years since it was Granted. That by her Industry & Labour she has preserved the Real Estate which now Remains to be divided & which all parties are desirous to have done but as ye said Josiah is not of full age it cant be done Effectually by their agreement and the Court of Probate is of opinion that it cant be Legally done by the Authority of that Court because by Law an acc^{t} must be Rendered before Distribution can be made for tis the Surplus only that is to be Divided. Besides tis also a Doubt whether that court can Intermeddle after administra^{n} has been so Long granted wherefore to Remedy all which your Petitioner in behalf of his Constituents Humbly prays that a Special Act may be passed Authorizing Some indifferent persons to make a compleat & final Partition of the said Real estate Among the said Interested parties and to order that the same so made be Recorded in some of the Public Records and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c.

JEDEDIAH PHILBRICK.

In the House of Representatives X^{ber} the first 1743. The within Petition Read and Voted that the prayer of the Petition be granted and that Messrs Benj^{a} Thing Capt Daniell Gilman & Levt John Gillman be a Comittee to make Division of said Estate according to Law and that the Petitioners have liberty to Bring in a Bill accordingly

James Jeffrey Clr. Ass^{m}

December 2^{d} 1743.
In Council, Read & Concurrd.
Theod. Atkinson Secry.

Eodem Die
Assented to B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for a further hearing on Haverhill petition for a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in chief of his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in Council.

The Petition of Eben^{r} Stevens & Jedediah Philbrick Agents

for the Town of Kingstown in the Province aforesaid, Humbly shews.

That in Consideration of a Petition now laying before your Excellency and the Hon^le^ His Majestys Council for a Parish in the Western part of Kingston, and an Appeal now Depending for want of a Competent Quorum of his Majestys Council to hear the same together with some other Essential papers which we are not provided with, your Petitioners humbly pray that a further Day may be appointed for the Town of Kingston to Shew Cause why the Petition of Richard Hazzen, and others for a Grant of Incorporation in the District of Haverhill so called may not be Granted, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray.

EBEN^r^ STEVENS
JED^h^ PHILBRICK

Portsmouth February 12th 1746.

February 7th 1746 then Sirvaid the Parrish granted by Kingstown at the West End adjoining upon Chester and Londonderry Agreement Line and find it upon s^d^ Line three miles and a half and one hundred and ten Rods: and three miles upon the East and by South poynt at the End agreeable to Said grant.

Sirvid by me, Sam^ll^ Emerson, Sirvaior.

[See plan of West Parish set off from Kingston 7th February, 1746, in MS. Vol. IV., pp. 34, 35. ED.]

Petition relating to the Basford land grant.

Province of New Hamp^r^ } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt Gen^ll^ Governour & Commander in Cheif in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and to the hon^ble^ his Majestys Council and the hon^ble^ house of Representatives in Genl Court Conven'd.

Humbly Shews the Proprietors of the Common and undevided Land in the Township of Kingston in said Province that one James Basford of Chester in s^d^ Province yeoman pretending to have a right to lands in the s^d^ town of Kingston hath procur'd several persons of Chester afores^d^ who stile themselves Lott layers to make two several returns of lands in Kingston afores^d^ to him the s^d^ James Bassford one of which returns is said to be dated ye 19th of sept 1733, and the other the 27th of Septr 1733, in both s^d^ returns are contain'd two hundred and forty acres of Land which land is the right and property of your petitioners and for which the s^d^ James Bassford hath no Lawfull right or grant neither had the Lott layers any Lawfull authority to lay out the s^d^ Land and they did the same without acquainting your petitioners or any of the

Proprietors therewith, And at his Majᵗⁱᵉˢ Superiour Court of Judicature held at Portsmouth within & for the Province afore sᵈ on the first tuesday of August last past the sᵗ James Bassford obtaind an order for a peremptory mandamus which accordingly Issued from the clerk of sᵈ court dated August 15ᵗʰ 1746 directed to the Town Clerk of Kingston for the time being, requiring him in his Majᵗⁱᵉˢ name forthwith to Enter & Record the sᵈ returns in the record of sᵈ Town with the other returns of the laying out of Land in the sᵈ Town, in the same manner as other returns are enter'd and recorded, being presented to him by the sᵈ James or any other person for him paying the Legal fees for the same and the said Town clerk is therein also required to make return of sᵈ mandamus & his doings therein unto the sᵈ Court on the first tuesday in February next at his peril, By which mandamus if observed by sᵈ Town clerk your Petitioners humbly conceive they wil be greatly Injur'd in their Right to & Interest in the Land mentioned in sᵈ return, (namely) by sᵈ returns being recorded in your petitioners book of records against your petitioners leave or Consent, the said James being neither Inhabitant of the sᵈ Town nor hath he any legal right to the land mention'd in sᵈ returns as proprietor or other wais to your petitioners knowledge wherefore the sᵈ James Bassford moving sᵈ Superiour Court for a mandamus to the clerk to record said returns before a tryal at the Common Law to Establish his right to the lands mention'd in sᵈ return if he had any as also sᵈ Superiour Courts Issuing sᵈ mandamus without notifying the Proprietors of sᵈ Kingston of sᵈ motion to be heard thereon and shew cause why sᵈ motion should not be granted your Petitioners humbly conceive to be unpresidental as also very injurious to your petitioners and the example hereof may be the like injurious to the Proprietors of the other towns in this Province unless your Excellency and honʳˢ interpose herein: Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray that your Excellency and honʳˢ will interpose herein and order that the sᵈ mandamus may be stay'd and all proceedings thereon untill sᵈ James if he sees fit make it appear by a tryal at the Common Law that he hath a right to the land mention'd in the said returns and that your Petitioners may have opportunity to defend their Just rights in a due Course of Law and not to have sᵈ unlawful returns entred and recorded in your petitioners book of records or other wais grant yoʳ Petittioners Such relief in the Premises as your Excellency & honʳˢ in your great wisdom shall see meet and your Petitionʳˢ as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

December 4ᵗʰ 1746.

John Sweett
Benjamin Choat
William Long
Nathanael French

Joseph Young	Stephen Gilman
Joseph Fifield	Benjamin Eastman
Cornelius Clough	Paul Sanborn
Simon French	Thomas Elkins
Samuel Fifield	Tristram Sanborn, Jr.
Joel Judkins	Daniel Lad
Samuel Sleeper	John Hunton
John Judkins	Phillip Huntoon, jun
Tristram Sanborn	Samuell Webster
Moses Sleeper	Joseph Fellows
Benjamin Sleeper	John Fifield Jr
Thomas Sleeper	Benjamin Webster
John Sweett Jr	Ebenezer Stevens, Jr
Samuel Sanborn	Sam[ll] Scribner
Elisha Sweet	Nathan Bachelder
Sam[l] Winslo	Elisha Winslee
Sam[l] Colcord	Jonathan Sanborn
Nathan Swett	Daniel Gilman
Benjamin Swett	Jacob Gilman
Samuel Eastman	Isaac ——— ?
William Loverin	Joseph Elkins
John Young	John Gilman.

In Councell Portsm[o] Sep[t] y[e] 4th 1746.
Read & Sent down to the House.
R. Wibird, pro. Secry.

In Council December 5th 1746.
Read again & revived & ordered to be sent down to the House.
Theod[r] Atkinson Secry.

Province of New Hampshire } At a Legall meeting of the Inhabitants & free holders of Kingstown held the Twenty fourth of September 1746, firstly Leiut John Sweat was Chosen Moderator for that meeting

2[dly] Voted that we do hereby as far as in us lyeth set off

Moses Tucker	Israel Huse
John Straw	James Huse
Jonathan Colbee	James Graves
Daniel Hibard	John Bond
Daniel Kid	Jacob Wells
Jacob Gurdey	Meshech Gurdey
David Straw	John Straw Jr
Reuben Clough	William Straw
Israel Huse Jr.	Phillips Wells
John Pressey	Jacob Tucker
Benjamin Tucker	Joseph Dow
John Hogg &	Orlando Colby

Of Kingstown abovesaid with a Certain Tract of Land in said Town for a distinct Parish or precinct, bounded as followeth Viz[t] Beginning at the Beech Tree which is the Dividing boundary between Londonderry & Chester said Tree standing on the West Line of said Kingston and running Southerly on said Kingston said line as heretofore setled between said Londonderry & said Kingston to the Island Pond (so called) Then running Easterly South Three miles then Northerly till a North & by West Course will Strike said Kingston Line (where it

crosses the mill brook so called) as heretofore setled between s^d^ Kingston & said Chester and from thence Viz. where said line crosses s^d^ mill brook to run Southerly on said line to the Beech tree first mentioned.

This is a true Copy taken out of Kingston Book of records

Attest Jed^h^ Philbrick, town Clerk.

Petition of persons in the westerly part of Kingston for town privileges.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. Generall, Governour and Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the hon^ble^ his Majestys Council of s^d^ Province.

The Petition of the Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Westerly parts of the Town of Kingston in s^d^ Province, Humbly Shews, That your Petitioners living so remote from the meeting house in s^d^ town are not able to attend the publick Worship there on the Sabbath and also by reason of the distance we live from the Town our other duties & Services have been for a long time past attended with great charge trouble and difficulty and we having represented the same to the s^d^ town they have at their late legal meeting sett us off as farr as in them lay as a distinct Parish with land suitable for the same as by the Votes of s^d^ Town herewith presented will fully & plainly appear. Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency & hon^rs^ will be pleased to Confirm the votes of s^d^ Town by Incorporating us & all others that do or shall inhabit or dwell within the Limits of the land so sett off by the Town into a Parish and that we may have all such priviledges as other parishes have both for the setting up and maintaining the publick Worship of God and all other duties & services appertaining to a Parish. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated Sep^t^ 26th 1746.

Moses Tucker
James Huse
Israel Huse
James Graves
Thomas Wells
Israel Huse, Jr
John Hoog
John Bond
Joseph Dow
Philip Wells
Daniel Hebberd
Jonathan Colby
William Straw
Daniell Kid
Orlando Colby
Paul Chase
Benjamin Tucker
Jacob Tucker
John Pressey
Rolen Clough
John Straw
Jacob Wells
Jacob Gordy
Mesheck Gordy
Daved Straw
John Straw Jr.

Petition for a Justice of the Peace.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief of His Majestys Province of New Hampshire,

The Petition of His Majestys subjects in Kingston,

Humbly sheweth, That having long Experienc'd the good Effects of the administration of the Civil Authority by a Justice of the Peace, as that office was used among us by the Honble Ebenezer Stevens Esq. deceas'd; since the death of that very worthy & good Gentleman, we are more Sensible of our obligations to your Excellency for Establishing such authority among us; & affected with our Present disadvantageous & uncomfortable State, for want of such Authority here; to prevent disorders, acknowledge Instruments of Conveyance, receive the Oaths of Town Officers &^c^ We therefore humbly Entreat your Excellency to reestablish such authority in this Place, and having been advised that your Excellency has condescended sometimes to Enquire of leading men in a Town who is most likely to support such Commission with Honour, in respect of the People. If the Governour were to honour us with such demand we might with humble submission propose Capt Jedidiah Philbrick.

And if your Excellency would further Indulge us we would, but just say: that having been long disus'd to the Inconveniency of going out of Town for such officer, If your Excellency tho't fit to grant such a Favour before our Annual Town meeting; we should esteem it an Instance of your great Condescention & Goodness to us, & it would afford this People a Singular Satisfaction.

We humbly beg your Excellency's Pardon for the Freedom, which your Paternal Concern for the Peace & good order of all under your Government, Condescending Goodness this People entirely your own and the Exigency of our Present state, has Encouraged & urged us to take. And humbly ask leave to add that, If your Excellency shall grant such Commission to such Person or Persons among us, & in such Time as in your great Wisdom you shall think fit, Your humble Petitioners shall ever pray.

Kingston Feb. 23^d^ 1749–50.

John Fifield, Jr
Joseph Bean
Sam^ll^ Colcord
Benjamin Stevens
Paul Sanborn
Elisha Sweet
John Huntoon
Samuel Fifield
Elisha Winslow
William Calfe
Nathan Swett
Tristram Sanborn, Jr
Joel Judkins.

Little Harbour 28th Feb. 1749.

Sir:

You are hereby desired to Place Capt Philbricks name in the Com-

mission of peace & to administer the Oath to him in order to Qualify him for his Office.

Your hum. Serv[t]

B. WENTWORTH.

Coll. Atkinson.

Petition for soldiers to keep the Fort.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt Gen[l] & Govern[r] & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties' of New Hamp[r] and to the Hon[bl]e his Majesties Council & House of Representatives in Gen[l] Court Assembled.

The Petition of the Subscribers Humbly shews that, whereas your Excellency & Hon[rs] Petitioners with our associates Proprietors of that Tract of land Called Maj[r] Stevens' town in s[d] Prov. out of a view, & Sincere aim of Settling & Encreasing this his Majesties Governm[t] & thereby to make frontier yet a greater distance from us, Have Exerted ourselves both in our persons and Estates in Laying out our land & in Building many Good Houses to Inhabit, & moveing up many families to dwell in them and also have Built a goodly Fort for their Safety: But the Indian Enemy having in the summer past made a Breach upon us & Captivated several of our Inhabitants & thereby lessen[d] our Number of Inhabitants & discouraged those that are left and also discourages others from settling so that we under these circumstances must be forced to move off our s[d] Inhabitants & so break up our settlements, & Demolish our Fort, which we humbly conceive may be a damage to this Governm[t] Wherefore we humbly pray that your Excellency & Hon[rs] would Consider our Case & Grant us some help of soldiers to keep our s[d] fort & keep our inhabitants there which we humbly Conceive may be of advantage to this Governm[t] and we shall still Exert our selves in promoting & Encouraging additional settlements by Encreasing our Inhabitants on s[d] Tract; and so we shall as in duty Bound Ever pray &[c]

Kingstown January the 30th day 1755.

JEREMY WEBSTER
ELISHA SWEET
SAM[ll] FIFIELD
JACOB GALE
JOHN WEBSTER

In Council, Jan. 30th 1755
read & recommended
Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition of sundry persons to remain in the old Parish.

Province of New Hampshire } Kingston February the 4th 1760.
To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General and Commander in Chief of the Province afore's^{d}, and to the Honble His Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened.

The Petition of us, the Subscribers inhabitants of Kingston, Humbly sheweth, That

Whereas a Petition Subscribed by a Number of the Inhabitants of the Westerly Part of the old Parish in said Town has been presented to the General Court of said province Praying for a Parish which according to the Limmitts Petitioned for will include us the Subscribers and your Petitioners knowing that in Country towns every Person cannot be accommodated with a meeting House at his Door and that the Breaking into so many small Parishes is (in our Humble opinion) so far from being for the Intrest of Religion (which is the Pretence) that it is very much injured by it By the great & needless charges that arise thereby, and it is very unreasonable (as wee think) for us & our estates to be laid under those unnecessary Burdens by being Joyned with them contrary to our inclinations and Intrest. Wee therefore Humbly pray That if your Excelly & Honor^{s} see Fitt to Grant the former Petitioners a Parish you would in your great Wisdom & clemency take our Circumstances under your Consideration and not compel us to Joyn with the former Petitioners Butt allow uss and our estates to Do duty and enjoy Priviledges with the old Parish as Before, and your Humble Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray &c.

Thomas Elkins
William Sleeper
Abner Whittier
Philip Davis
Eli Silver ?
Joseph Webster
Amos Easman
Isaac Webster
Richard Sargent
Jonathan Sargent
Francis Pollard
Jeremiah Hubbard
Richard Hubard
Thomas Dent
John Webster
Hanah Dodge
Joseph Heath
Daniel Hurst
Daniel Sargent
William X Sargent
his mark

Moses Welch
Joseph Heath, Jr
Benjamin Severance
Samuel Stewart ?
Samuel Daves
Ezekiel Davis
John Davis
Joseph Fellows
John Coser
Sam^{ll} Davis, Jr
Jacob Davis
Edward Eastman 3^{d}
William Eastman
John Thorn
James Thorn
Benjamin Collins
Jonathan Collins
Ezra Tucker
Timothy Eastman
John Fifield, Jr
Jonathan Harve
Eben^{r} Severance

29

Sam[ll] Fellows
David Flanders
John Bartlet
Isaac Flanders
William Chales

Petition for a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honourable His Majestys Council And House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened, the Second Day of January 1760.

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of that Part of Kingston in Said Province adjoining on the Parish of Sandown, Humbly shews,

That whereas Providence hath placed us at a great Distance from any place of stated public Worship in Town & so rendered our Attendance thereon very difficult & our Families often impracticable: We have built a meeting House among us to accomodate ourselves & Families, That we & they might more conveniently attend the public Worship of God & with more ease & comfort enjoy the Word & ordinances necessary for Salvation, And being disirious at our own cost & charge to maintain the Worship of God among us, We petitioned The Town to Set us off to be a Parish Separate from them, But they (as we apprehend) not regarding our difficult Circumstances have unreasonably denied our Request: Wherefore We humbly pray that we may be sett off & incorporated into a Parish distinct from them in the following manner viz[t] bounding Westerly on Sandown East Line, thence to extend Easterly carrying the whole Breadth of the Town till it comes half way between our new meeting house & the old meeting house in Town, And that we may be discharged from paying to the ministry & the School in the other part of the Town & enjoy the Powers & Priviledges of other Parishes.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &[c]

Samuell Webster
John March
Obediah Elkens
Jonathan French
Israel Dimond
William Clifford
Daniel Brown
Henry Morrill
Anans Camell
Jonathan Sanborn
Beniaman Webster
Thomas Welch
Joshua Webster
Benjamin Selly
Joseph Brown
William Brusel ?
Dyer Hook
Humphry Hook
Joseph Worth
Elisha Bachelder
Jacob Hook
Edward Eastman, Jr
Reuben Bachelder
Samuel Sargent
David Tilton
Aron Quimby

Samuel March	Jeremiah Flanders
Jeremiah Quimby	Ephraim Paige
Joseph Sweat	Moses Quimby
John March, Jr	Henray Hunt
Ezra Tucker	John Collins
John Paige	David Quimby
Samuel Quimbe	Benjamin Darling
Elias Rano	Joseph Clifford
Nathan Jones	Joshua Webster, Jr
Ezra Jones	Benjamin Webster Jr
Jonathan Blake	Paul Pressey
Malachi Daves	William Selley
Stephen Barnard	John Sanborn, Jr
John Quimby	Thomas Wadley
Thomas Eliot Colby	William Morey
Elisha Clough	Thomas Eastman

In Council Jan. 16th 1760
The within Petition read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.

Theodore Atkinson, Secy

Province of New Hampr } In the house of Representatives, Jan. 16th 1760. This petition bein read, ordered,

That the petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly next after the fifteenth of Febry next, & that they at their own Cost & Charge cause the select men of Kingston to be served with a Copy of this petition & order of Court thereon, that they may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Jany 17th 1760.
Read & Concurrd

Theodr Atkinson, Secry.

Province of New Hampshire } In the house of Representatives Feby 19th 1760. This petition having been read, The parties on Each side appear'd by themselves & attorneys & after being fully heard thereon, Voted, that the prayer thereof be granted So far as to be agreeable to the minutes, on the Back of the plan, & that the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson, Clerke.

In Council Feby. 20th 1760.
Read & Concurred.

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition relating to boundaries.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honble His Majestys Council & Assembly of said Province

The Humble Petition of Benjamin Stevens and Elis ha Swett both of Kingston in said Province as Agents for the Proprietors of the common Land there shews

That the Township of Chester lying next to Kingston &

Principally on the Westerly Side thereof the Proprietors of said Chester have lately Raised a dispute with the Proprietors & inhabitants of Kingston about the Bounds there and would Remove the said Westerly Boundary of Kingston, (which your Petion^rs apprehended was fixed & marked before the grant of Chester) further Eastward & claim the Land between the line which they give us, & that which we say is the true Line, and in Consequence of this have bro't an action against one Bean who holds a parcel of Land between these two lines, in the Right of Kingston which action is now Pending at the Infer^r Court.

That the land between these lines has been almost if not quite all laid out by Kingston into lots of about forty rods in Breadth & half a mile in length so that there is a prospect of many suits at Law before this dispute will be ended in that way, which will be Expensive & Burdensome many ways, which the Proprietors of Kingston would gladly have settled in a more Summary method, But that cant be done by the direction of the Law to Renew and Perambulate Boundaries for they will not agree to the place which we fix for that Renewal of Perambulation, nor is there any Prospect of Compounding for each party Claims & seems to be determined to have the whole. That the foundation of their claim as yor Petitioners suppose is a Supposition that Kingston has more Land than the Exact admeasurement of their lines wou'd give them which is no more than may be said of every Tract of Land laid out in the woods & Especially so long ago as the grant & Survey of Kingston.

Wherefore your Petition^rs in behalf of their Principals Pray that this matter may be Exam^d and by a Resolve of the Legislature Determined which of these two Disputed Lines, or where the true boundary line of Kingston on the side aforesaid & elsewhere where Chester Disputes with them is, which your Petition^rs humbly Conceive will Prevent many suits at Law & they will as in duty bound ever pray &^c

BENJAMIN STEVENS } for himself & said Swett.

In Council Apr 2^d 1761.

The within Petition read & ordered to be sent to the hon^ble Assembly.

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Province of } In the House of Representatives
New Hamp^r } April 2^d 1761.

This petition being read, ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon the 23^d instant, if the General Assembly be then sitting, If not then on the third day of their sitting next after & that they at their own cost and charge cause the clerk of ye proprietors of Chester to be served with a copy of this petition & this order of Court thereon that

he or they may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Eod^m Die
Read & Concurred.
Theod^r Atkinson, Secry.

Province of } In the House of Representatives
New Hamp^r } April 23, 1761.

The parties appearing and being fully heard thereon, Voted, that Col. Joseph Smith Esq. Mr Zebulon Gidding & Mr Thom^s Wiggin be a committee to joyn with such as may be appointed by the Honble Council to Repair to the place mention'd In s^d petition & Examine into the premises mentioned therein & make Report to this house as soon as may be.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Eod^m Die.
Read & Concurred and the Honble Joseph Newmarch Esq. added on the part of the Board.
Theod^r Atkinson, Secry.

Report of Committee on the same.

Province of } May the 29th 1761.
New Hampshire } Pursuant to the foregoing vote of the Generall Assembly, We the Subscribers being appointed a Committee to Repair to the place mentioned in the foregoing Petition and Examin into the Premises therein mentioned have accordingly so done and for answer do Report and say from the evidences that appear'd to us on the spot and from the Circumstances of the several Towns Round about do adjudge & Say That the South west Corner of the Town of Exeter at which stood a Beach Tree on the Stump of which there is now a pile of stones from which pile of stones or Stump, in the North line of Kingston at the head of s^d Exeter and from thence to run westerly to a certain large dead pine tree now standing Marked with Sundry letters which we Judge is the true Northwest Corner of Kingston, and then from said pine southerly to a Beach tree which is the South East Corner of Chester and the North East Corner of Londonderry Standing on Kingston's head line, which boundary so far we say are the true bounds of Kingston and do therefore accordingly Humbly Submitt the Same.

J. Newmarch
Joseph Smith
Thomas Wiggin
Zebulon Giddinge } Committee

Province of } In the House of Representatives
New Hamps } May 31st 1761.
This Report being Read, Voted
That it be Received, allowed & accepted & sent up for concurrance.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council June 2^d 1761.
Read & concurred.
Theod. Atkinson, Secry.

Petition about Small-pox.

Province of New Hamp^{s} } The petition of us the Subscribers unto the Honorable the House of Representatives for the Province of New Hampshire afores^{d} most humbly sheweth.

That Whereas John Davice and David Flanders both of Kingston in the Province Afores^{d} were enlisted in and went on the Expedition against Canada In the year Past under the Command of Capt Jonson and on their Return home Thay took the Infection of the Small Pox and falling sick of the same they fell under our care and greatly to our Cost, And with Great Confidence in and Reliance on your great Wisdom and care for the good of the Several Towns and Parishes within this Province we Do the more chearfully Present our Petition unto you for your wise Consideration of the same, humbly praying that you would order the Cost to Be paid out of the Treasury of this Province And thereby we shall Be Discharged from the heavy charge of such a Sickness which was Brought on the persons By their volintaryly Serving their King and Countary &^{c}

And We as In duty Bound shall Ever Pray.

SAM^{ll} WINSLE, SAMUEL FIFIELD, SAMUEL STUEART } Selectmen of Kingston.

Kingston February the 17th 1761.

The Account of the Charge of John Davice and David Flanders when sick with the small pox in Kingston in December 1760, and January 1761, and

	£	S	D
Provision and Wood	114	10	00
Nurses	201	00	00
For use of the house	10	00	00
Doctors Bill	15	10	00
Cleansing the house	25	00	00
Selectmens time in taking care of the sick under the small pox	10	00	00
	376	00	00

old Tenor.

The nurses asked £5 Old Tenor pr day.

Deduct for the Select mens Charge wch the house will not allow any thing for £10

366

£366 old Tenor. Is Sterlg £14–12–9 Sterlg | £14–12–9 Sterlg.

Province of New Hamp^{r} } April the 20th 1761. Then the men whose names are annexed to the foregoing Petition Personally appeared and made oath to the account following the Petition to Be True according to the Best of their Knowledge Before me,

Eben^{r} Stevens, Just. Peace.

Province of New Hamp^{s} } In the House of Representatives Apr^{l} 22^{d} 1761.

Voted, That there be allow'd & paid to the Selectmen of Kingstown or their order Fourteen pounds Twelve Shillings & nine pence Sterlg, in full of this petition & paid out of money that is or may be In the Treasury for paying of the Forces last years Campaign.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

£14 ,, 12 ,, 9, Sterlg.

In Council April 25th 1761.

Read & concurrd.

Theod^{r} Atkinson Secry.

Consented to B. WENTWORTH.

KENSINGTON.

[Incorporated as a Parish of Hampton 19th August, 1737. ED.]

Petition to send a representative.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq Governor and Commander in Chief in and over this his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the honourable the Council and the Gentlemen of the house of Representatives Now Siting for said province.

The petition of the parish of Kensington, Humbly sheweth, That

Whereas your Excellency with the honourable Court have Indulg'd the Westerly part of Hampton falls with the Favour of having a distinct parish with such priviledges as other parishes within this province have Excepting that of making Choice of a man to Represent them in General Assembly, and we having been without this priviledge for these two years past in not having an opportunity to have our voice in Choosing of a Representative, Notwithstanding we pay our proportion of the Province Taxes we desire you would grant us the liberty henceforth to choose a man from among our selves to Represent this Parish in General Assembly, Depending upon the Wisdom and Clemency of this Court nothing doubting but that so Reasonable a Request will be granted

ROBERT ROW } Select
EZEKIEL DOW } men
And in behalf of the parish.

In the House of Representatives, the within Petition Read and Voted y^{t} ye prayer of the Pett^{rs} be granted.

James Jeffrey, Clr. Assm.

Aug. 6th 1740.

At a Legal meeting of the freeholders of the Parish of Kensington holden in said Parish on the 22^{d} day of September 1742 then Voted, that Robert Row and Ebenezer Brown (1) should put in a petition to his Excellency and the Honorable Court of this province the next General sessions for the priviledge of having a Representative.

As Attest Ezekiel Dow,
Parish Clerk.

(1) The same petition as above, was renewed May, 1743, by Robert Row and Ebenezer Brown.

KINGSWOOD.

THE CHARTER OF KINGSWOOD, AND THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PROPRIETORS.

[Kingswood was granted, as will be seen from the following charter, 20 October 1737, during the administration of Gov. Belcher. It appears to have comprehended the towns of Middleton, New Durham, New Durham Gore, and part of the towns of Gilmanton, Wakefield and Wolfeborough. J. FARMER.]

Charter.

{Prov. Seal.} Province of New Hampshire

George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France & Ireland King Defender of the faith &^{c}

To all People to whom these Presents shall Come, Greeting, Know ye that we of our Especial Grace certain Knowledge and meer motion for the due Encouragement of Setling a new Plantation for the Encrease of Naval Stores and for the better defence of our said Province of New Hampshire by and with the Advice of our Council for the said Province of New Hampshire have given & Granted and by these Presents as far as in us lies do give and grant unto Sundry of our beloved Subjects Whose names are Entered in a Schedule hereunto annexed and to their Associates in all to make up the number of sixty and to their Heirs for Ever in the manner hereafter Expressed a certain tract of land lying and being within our said Province of New Hampshire bounded as followeth vizt Beginning at the South Easterly Corner of Barnstead and from thence to run upon the Same Course as Barnstead Easterly side line runs to Winnipisioky Pond from thence upon a Right Angle till it comes to the Boundary line between our said Province of New Hampshire and that which was formerly called the province of Main from thence on the said Boundary line runneth to the North Easterly Corner of The Town of Rochester from thence by Rochester and Barrington head lines to the bounds first mentioned and that the same be a Town Corporate by the name of Kingswood to the Persons in said Schedule mentioned and their associates as aforesaid and their Heirs for ever, To Have and To Hold the said Tract of land unto the Persons in said Schedule mentioned and their associates as aforesaid and their Heirs forever, on the following Conditions vizt.

1st That Each Proprietor build a dwelling house within the said Town and settle a family therein within the space of Five years from the date

hereof unless there should be a War and then the space of five years from the End of such Warr to be allow'd for the same.

2dly That a meeting house be built at the charge of the Proprietors within the said Town within the space of Five years and an orthodox minister setled in said Town within seven years from the date hereof unless there should be a Warr and then the Term of five years from the End of said Warr to be allow'd for the same.

3dly If any particular proprietor or proprietors should not comply with the Terms of this Charter within the time limited as aforesaid such delinquent Proprietor or Proprietors shall forfeit his or their respective Interest Right or share in the said Town unto the rest of the Proprietors, provided the rest of the proprietors do and perform within Two years after the time limited as aforesaid shall be Expired, what should have been done and performed by such delinquent Proprietor or Proprietors Any thing in this Charter contained to the Contrary thereof notwithstanding Provided nevertheless that there be three hundred acres of land reserved in said Town for the first Ordained minister in fee that shall be settled in said Town by vote of the said proprietors and three hundred acres be reserved for the Second Ordained minister in fee that shall be setled as aforesaid and six hundred acres for a Parsonage or Parsonages for ever and three hundred acres for the use of a school or schools in said Town for ever all to be laid out for the uses Aforesaid, and the nine hundred acres last mentioned to be applyed for the uses aforesaid by the Proprietors or Major Part thereof. The Proprietors of said Tract of land Rendering and paying there for to us our Heirs and successors or such officer as shall be appointed to Receive the same the anuual Quit-Rent or acknowledgments of Ten Pounds of Hemp upon the last day of October yearly and every year if lawfully demanded in said Town Reserving also unto us our Heirs and successors all Mast Trees growing on said Tract of land, And for the better order and Government of the said Town We do by these Presents for us our Heirs and Successors Grant unto the said Town yearly & every year to hold Town meetings and to transact all their Town Affairs as fully and amply to all Intents and purposes, as any Town in this our Province of New Hampshire doth or ought to do according to Law; and to the said Proprietors to hold Proprietors meetings distinct & Seperate from Town meetings in Any town in our Province of New Hampshire and to choose such officers as they shall think necessary. The first of which Proprietors meetings shall be called by the Three Persons first mentioned in the schedule hereunto annexed by a Notification in writing by them signed and affixed to some publick place in the Town of Portsmouth in said Province seven days at least before the holding of such meeting and Afterwards the said proprietors meetings shall be called by such persons of said Proprietors and in such a manner as shall be agreed upon by Said Proprietors or the Major part of them at any Proprietors meeting And it is hereby further provided that when so ever any sum or sums of money shall be voted to be raised by the major part of the Proprietors at any of their meetings for the use of the said Proprietors and any proprietor or Proprietors shall neglect to pay the proper proportionable part of the same to the Person or Persons who shall be appointed to Collect And Receive the same for the space of two months after it ought to be paid according to the Vote for raising it, The said Person or Persons shall be and hereby are impowered to make Sale of so much land of any such delinquent Proprietor or Proprietors that shall be in Severalty at Such times as shall Amount to five times the Value of the sum or sums assessed on such delinquent Proprietor or proprietors, The same to be sold at a publick Vendue by such Person or Persons as shall be appointed to Collect and receive the Same after

fifteen days publick notice thereof given in the Town where the Majority of the Proprietors shall then live and then deducting the charges that shall then have accrued upon such sale the Remainder shall be deposited in the Common proprietors Stock, and we do further by these Presents for us our Heirs and successors Give and Grant unto the said Town to Have Hold and enjoy Two fairs in said Town yearly and every year for ever not Exceeding three days Each the one to begin on the third Wednesday in May and the other on the third Wednesday in September and So de anno in annum for Ever. In Testimony whereof we have Caused the Publick Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed, Witness Jonathan Belcher Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief in and over our said Province of New Hampshire the twentieth day of October in the Eleventh year of our Reign Annoque Domini one Thousand seven hundred and thirty Seven.

J. BELCHER.

By His Excellencys Comand
with the advice of the Council
Richd Waldron, Sec^{ry}

A true Copy from the Original Charter compared and transcribed by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

A Schedule of the Persons names to whom the within Charter is granted viz.

Eleazer Russell
Nathl Rogers
Matthew Livermore
Thos Peirce
Wm Parker
Benj^{a} Walton
Sam^{ll} Hart
Jos: Molton
Jno Cut
Thos Wright
Jno Ayers
Solomon Cotton
Dan^{ll} Jackson Jr
Saml Sherburn, Merch^{t}
Henry Sherburn Jr. Ditto
Wm King
Jno Sherburn of little Harbour
Jos. Sherburn, Son to Jos. Sherburne Esq
Nathl Mendum
Geo. Rogers
Jos. Whipple
Jno Ross
Charles Frost N. Castle
Jno Shackford, Jr
Jno Wood
Wm Frost
Benj^{a} Miller
Danl Moulton
Benj. Gambling
Jno Pray
Solomon Pike
Nich^{o} Whidden
Jno Fellows
Thos Westbrook
Danl Rogers
Sam. Sherburn, Inhold^{r}
Elliot Vaughan
Peter Greley
Ichabod Plaisted
Thos Newmarch
Jno Kennard
Henry Sherburne Jr of the plains
John Dennet son of Eph^{m} Dennet Esq.
Moses Dennet
Jos Langdon
Saml White
Geo. Peirce
Joseph Jackson
Moses Noble

A true Copy from the original Schedule transcribed & Compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Pursuant to a Charter Granted to Sundry persons of a tract of land lying in the province of New Hampshire called by the Name of Kingswood: These are to Notify the Proprietors thereof that they meet at

the house of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in New Hampshire Aforesaid on monday the last day of October Instant at two of the Clock in the Afternoon Then and there, first to choose a moderator 2dly to choose a Proprietors Clerk 3dly To admit and Vote in the associates according to the Charter, 4ly To agree upon & prescribe a method for calling proprietors meeting for the future till altered by the Proprietors, 5ly To choose such Committees as the proprietors may think necessary 6thly To choose a proprietors Tax Collector; as also any other officer or officers for the Service of the said Proprietors and to do and transact any other business relating to the said Proprietors.

Dated October
the 21st 1737.

Nathl Rogers
Eleazer Russell
Matthew Livermore
} Appointed by the Charter to call the first Proprietors meeting.

A true Copy of the Original Notification transcribed and Compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Province of New Hampr } At a Meeting of the Proprietors of the town of Kingswood lying in the Province of New Hampr at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey in Portsmo in sd Province on the last day of October 1737 pursuant to Notification therefor First, Voted that Nathaniel Rogers Esqr be Modr of the meeting, 2ly Voted that Matthew Livermore be Proprietors Clerk who was Sworn to the faithfull discharge thereof by George Jaffrey Esq.

3dly Voted that Shadrach Walton Esq be admitted an associate in said town of Kingswood, That George Jaffrey Esq. be admitted an associate in sd town, That Jotham Odiorne Esq be admitted an associate in sd town, That Henry Sherburne Esq be admitted an associate in sd town, That Richard Waldron Esq. be admitted an associate in sd Town, That Ephraim Dennet Esq. be admitted an associate in sd town, That Joshua Peirce Esq. be admitted an associate in sd Town, That Joseph Sherburn Esq. be admitted an associate in sd town, That Ellis Huske Esq. be admitted an associate in sd Town, That Theodore Atkinson Esq. be admitted an associate in sd Town That Mr Andrew Belcher be admitted an associate in sd Town.

4ly Voted that Eleazer Russell Esq. Nathl Rogers Esq. and Matthew Livermore or the Major Part thereof be a committee to call Proprietors meetings for the future as they shall see occasion till further Order.

5ly That upon application of Ten whole share Proprietors or so many as are Equivalent thereto made unto the aforesd Committee for a Proprietors meeting the said Committee or Major part of them shall call a Proprietors meeting within the space of Twelve days after such application made and give seven days notice thereof in writing under their hands or the Major Part of them to be set up at some publick place in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire and that when a Proprietors meeting is called upon such application made the said committee shall insert in the notification for calling such meeting, who they were that applied for, and the particular Business they would have done and transacted at Such meeting.

6th Voted that three persons of the Proprietors be a committee to Consider of a proper method and agree for a number of Persons to settle the Town of Kingswood according to the Charter and make their Report thereof unto the Proprietors at a Proprietors meeting for confirmation and that the said Committee agree with a person or Persons to run such lines as said Committee shall think necessary and make Report thereof as soon as may be.

7thly Voted, That Nathaniel Rogers Esq. Eleazer Russel Esq. and Matthew Livermore be a committee for the business mentioned in the Sixth Vote.

8thly Voted that Henry Sherburne Esq. be Treasurer for the Proprietors of Kingswood till further order.

9thly Voted that Mr John Fellows be Tax Collector for the Proprietors of Kingswood till further order

10thly Voted that Each Proprietor pay the sum of twenty shillings to the Tax Collector which he is impowered to collect of each Proprietor by shewing a copy of this Vote and to be pay'd by Each proprietor to sd Collector within the space of fourteen days from the date hereof, which moneys when collected, the said Collector is to pay unto the Proprietors Treasurer for the use of the Proprietors.

11ly Voted, that the Committee mentioned in the seventh Vote be impowered to draw out of the hands of the Treasurer of the Proprietors such sum or sums of money as said Committee shall have occasion for, for the use of the Proprietors and to render an account of their disposition thereof to the Proprietors as soon as may be and sd Treasurer is hereby impowered to pay such sum or sums.

12ly Voted That the Proprietors clerk be Impowered to purchase a Book for the use of the Proprietors to enter the charter and Schedule and all the Proceedings of the Proprietors in, and that sd clerk draw money out of the Proprietors Treasurers hands to pay for sd Book who is hereby Impowered to pay the same.

13ly Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Wednesday the Sixteenth day of November next at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey in Portsmouth in New Hampshire at two of the clock in the afternoon.

Nathl Rogers, Moderator.

A true copy transcribed from the original minutes and compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Novr 16th 1737.

Proprietors met according to adjournment and the comittee not having finished their Report, it is voted that this meeting be further adjourned to Fryday the Twenty fifth day of November Instant at two of the clock in the afternoon at the house of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in New Hampshire.

Nathl Rogers, Moderator.

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Novr 25th 1737.

The Proprietors met according to adjournment, and the Committee not yet having finished their Report it is Voted that this meeting be adjourned to the first Monday in December next at two of the clock in the afternoon at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in New Hampshire.

Nathl Rogers, Moderator

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

December the 5th 1737.

The Proprietors met according to adjournment, and Voted that the following Report of the Committee be accepted namely, That they had conferred with Doctr John Ross in order to agree with him upon Terms for settling the Town of Kingswood and that they had employed a surveyor to run the Westerly side line of Kingswood and to coast the

Pond from the upper Part thereof down to lower arm of it, and that the said Surveyor had done according to their order and made a Return thereof by which it appear'd to the said Committee that they could not agree with any Person in order to a Settlement till some other line or Lines were Run. Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Thursday the fifteenth day of December Inst at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey, Taverner in Portsmouth in New Hampshire at Three of the clock in the after noon.

Nathl Rogers, Modr

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

December 15th 1737.

The Proprietors met according to adjournment And 1st Voted that the Committee, namely Nathanael Rogers & Eleazer Russell Esqrs & Matthew Livermore Already appointed to agree with a Person or Persons to run such line or lines of Kingswood as they should think necessary be a committee to agree with a Surveyor or Surveyors to run such other line or lines of the sd Town of Kingswood as are not Already run as said Committee shall think necessary and that they do the same business at the Expence of the Proprietors of said Kingswood and that they make their Report of their doing relating thereto to the said Proprietors as soon as said Committee Conveniently Can.

2dly Voted that Each Proprietor of said Kingswood pay the sum of twenty shillings to Mr John Fellows Tax-Collector for sd Proprietors that the same be collected by sd Collector in the method already prescribed and Voted, and that the said Collector pay the same to Henry Sherburne, Esq. Treasurer for sd Proprietors to be drawn out of the hands of s Treasurer by the sd Committee for the use of said Proprietors.

3dly Whereas it is found by Experience that every meeting of the Proprietors Aforesd is attended with an unavoidable Expence to those present, it is therefore Voted that the Expence of Each respective meeting of said Proprietors begining at this present meeting not Exceeding the sum of forty shillings shall be born by the said Proprietors and that the Moderator of said Meeting be and hereby is impowered to draw on the Treasurer of sd Proprietors to pay said Expence not exceeding said sum at each respective meeting and how much of said sum shall be spent at each respective meeting shall be Voted at such meeting.

4thly Voted that the sum of forty shillings be Expended at this meeting

5thly Voted that this meeting be adjourned to the thirteenth day of January next at two of the clock in the Afternoon at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire.

Nathl Rogers, Modr

A true Copy from the Original Minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

Jan. 13th 1737–8

The proprietors met according to adjournment, And 1st, Voted that the sum of nine shillings be Expended at this meeting.

2ly The surveyor not being returned, Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Thursday the nineteenth day of January Inst at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampr at two of the Clock in the afternoon.

Nathl Rogers, Modr

A true Copy from the original Minutes transcribed and Compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

Jan. nineteenth 1737–8

The Proprietors met according to adjournment and 1st Voted that the first settlement in the town of Kingswood shall be in the Southerly Corner of said Town

2ly Voted that Colo Henry Sherburne, Richard Waldron & Matthew Livermore Esqs shall be and hereby are appointed a Committee to agree with such Person or Persons as they can to procure sixty families to settle in the Town ship of Kingswood as soon as may be for the Interest of the Proprietors and that the said Committee be & hereby are authorized and Impowered to offer in the name of the Proprietors of said Township, for the Encouragement of the settlers, a number of acres of the land in the said Township not Exceeding three hundred at the Discretion of the sd Committee for Each family to be laid out in such manner and form as the said Committee shall think proper, agreeable to the preceding Vote, and that each share of land which the said committee shall cause to be laid out and appropriated to Each setler shall be good & pass the Right of the Proprietors in said share, to such setler his Heirs and assignees forever And that the said Committee shall cause to be laid out besides, three shares of land of the same contents, one for the first minister, his Heirs snd Assigns forever, one for a Parsonage to the use of and in the first settlement or District in the said Township forever, one for the use of a school in said settlement or District forever and also three hundred acres more for each Proprietor in as Equal a manner as They can for the mutual Interest of the Proprietors, and further that the said Committee cause all the aforesaid one hundred and twenty three shares of land to be laid out in so many and such Divisions as they shall think proper (Each to be done in the same manner) at the cost and charge of the Proprietors.

3ly Voted that forty shillings shall be Expended at this meeting.

4ly Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Fryday the twenty seventh day of January Inst at two of the clock in the afternoon at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire.

Nathl Rogers, Modr

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

January ye 27th 1737–8.

The proprietors met according to adjournment, and first Voted, that thirty three shillings and sixpence shall be expended at this meeting.

2ly Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Fryday the tenth day of February next at five of the clock in the afternoon at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire.

Nathl Rogers, Modr

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

Province of New Hampshire } At a meeting of the Proprietors of the town of Kingswood in the province of New Hampshire on the tenth day of February 1737–8 at the house of Mrs Ann Harvey, Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire by adjournment,

1st Voted that the sum of seventeen shillings shall be expended at this meeting.

2ly Voted, that this meeting be adjourned to the sixteenth day of March next to the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire at two of the clock in the afternoon

Nathl Rogers Modr

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Province of New Hampr } March ye 16th 1737–8
The Proprietors met according to adjournment, and voted 1st that forty shillings shall be expended at this meeting.

2ly Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Fryday the Thirty first day of March Instant at two of the clock in the afternoon at the usual Place.

Nathl Rogers, Modr

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Ltvermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Prov. of N. Hampr } March 31st 1738.
The proprietors met according to adjournment and

Voted 1st That the sum of four shillings and three pence be expended at this meeting.

2ly That this meeting be adjourned to Tuesday the Twenty fifth day of April next at two of the clock in the afternoon at the usual Place.

Nathl Rogers, Mod

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed & compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

LANCASTER

AND OTHER TOWNS BORDERING ON IT.

[Lancaster was granted to Capt. David Page and others, July 5, 1763. Ed.]

Minutes of Council.

At a council held at Portsmo by his Excellency's Summons on Friday March 13th 1772, Present, His Excellency the Govr

Theodore Atkinson, Daniel Rindge, Daniel Pierce } Esqrs
George Jaffrey, Daniel Rogers } Esquires

The petition of the proprietors of Lancaster Northumberland, Shelburne, setting forth the utility of a Road from Conway to Connecticut River on the East of the White hills, and praying his Excellency would be pleased to order the Surv^{r} General of Lands to mark out a proper Road & Issue such further order thereon as will effectuate the same:

Whereupon the council took under consid^{n} the premises and the matter therein contained appearing to be reasonable & tending much to advance & facilitate the settlem^{t} of that part of the Country, as well as for the general benefit & advantage of the province it is tho't expedient & his Excellency is accordingly advised, When he thinks proper, to issue orders for the surv^{r} gen^{l} to Enter on the Said Business: and that this Petition be referr'd to the Genl Assembly at their next meeting in order that provision may be made to defray the Expence thereof.

Copy from the Minutes of Council.

Examined by

Geo: King D. Sec^{y}

Petition for soldiers.

Whereas we the Inhabitants of Lancaster Northumberland, Guildhall & Stratford are fully sensible of the Danger of being attacked by the Canadians which are the Wors^{t} of Enemys & although some of our neighbours have Quit the ground yet we the Subscribers Do Jointly & severly promis & ingage to Stand our ground providing the Hon^{bl} Counsell sees Fitt to grant our request That is this, that you will pleasure us your petitioners so far as to apoint Mr Jere^{h} Ames of Northumberland our friend and Neighbor, Commander of our fort which with a great Deal of fetage we have almost acomplished and Likewise for him the s^{d} Ames to have orders to inlist as many men as the Hon^{r} Cort in their Wisdom will see fit, we do ingage to inlist our selves and obey his orders as long as he is stationed in the uper Coos and Commander of the fort.

Northumberland July 6th 1776.

Thomas Blogget	David Larned
Sam^{ll} Nash	Samuel Page
Emmens Stockwell	Abner Osgood
Ward Bailey	Abel Larned
James Blake	John Trickey
Nathan Caswell	James Curtiss
Archippas Blogget	Abijah Larned
Josiah Blogget	Moses Quimby
Dies Sawyer	Joseph Barlow
Eliezer Rosbrook	Abner Barlow

LANDAFF.

[Landaff was first granted, Jan. 3, 1764, to James Avery and others; but failed for not fulfilling the conditions. It was then granted to the Trustees of Dartmouth College, 1774; but subsequently to the Revolu-

tion, the first grantees renewed their claim, in law, and the grant was restored to them. ED.]

Petition of Trustees of Dartmouth College.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General, Governor, and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire &[c] and to the Honorable his Majestys council in said Province.

The Petition of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, in said Province, Humbly Sheweth

That there are ten Families settled & settling in the Township of Landaff in the county of Grafton and Province aforesaid, and a number of others are expected very soon to enter and settle there. That the Inhabitants have already suffered many disadvantages for want of an Incorporation of the same and must soon suffer many more and greater Inconveniences unless an act of Incorporation of said Township be soon obtained.

We therefore earnestly request your Excellency and Honors to take the matter into your wise and Judicious Consideration and that you will please to incorporate said Township of Landaff, Granting to the Inhabitants of the same all such powers and priviledges as are usual and Customary to be granted to Incorporations of Townships, and any other privileges and advantages as your Excellency and Honors in your great Wisdom shall Judge Expedient for the benefit of the same under its peculiar situation and relation to this College. And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

By order of the Trustees,

BEZA WOODWARD, Clerk.

Dartmouth College Aug. 26th 1774.

Names of Persons settling & Settled as heads of Families in Landaff.

Nathaniel Hovey	George Mineham
Elisha Cleveland	Alpheus Hill
Joseph Warner	Joseph Cleveland
James Hovey	John Phillips
John Bedel	David Wodward

Minutes of Trustees of Dartmouth College.

At an Annual Meeting of the Trustees of Dartmouth College held at said College Aug. 25th 1774, Present,

The Reverend	Eleazer Wheelock D. D. President.
The Honorable	George Jaffrey, Esq.
The Honorable	Peter Gilman Esq.
The Reverend	Benj[a] Pomeroy D. D.
The Honorable	John Phillips Esq.
	Bezaleel Woodward Esq[r]
The Reverend	Eden Burroughs
	John Sherburne Esq[r]
	Elisha Paine Esq[r]

Voted, and resolved, To present a petition to his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Governor of this Province and to the Honorable his Majestys Council for an Incorporation of the Inhabitants of the Township of Landaff and that the Clerk of this Board be directed to draw and sign the same.

A true Copy of Record.

Attest

Beza Woodward, Clerk.

LEMPSTER.

[This town was granted by charter January 5, 1767. Settlements were made about 1770, by immigrants from Connecticut. Ed.]

Petition of Capt. Joseph Spencer for an extension of the charter.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governour & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Prov. of New Hampshire aforesaid and Vice Admiral of the same, In Council.

The petition of Joseph Spencer Esqr in behalf of the Major part of the Grantees and proprietors of the township of Lempster in the said province, Humbly shews,

That the Charter of the said Township of Lempster was granted on the 5th January 1767 on Certain Terms of Culture &^c^ Expressed to be performed within 5 years from the date of the Grant, and your petitioner begs leave to represent, That as there are many difficulties which unavoidably attend the settlement of a new plantation Especially one that is at a remote distance from any Inhabitants many of the Petition^rs^ have abundantly Experienced the discouragements arising therefrom, particularly in being obliged to cut Roads thro' the woods to their respective Lots at their own Expence, which has principally retarded their compliance with the duties of the Grant; it has been peculiarly hard upon them as sundry of the Original Grantees have not to this day contributed in the least degree towards the settlement thereof, whereby those who have used their endeavours tho' not to full effect are liable to share the Fate of the (totally) delinquent, notwithstanding which inconveniences there are Eight Families actually resident on the premises, and Eight more that have improv'd so as to able to go on in the spring besides other Improvements, which affords a fair prospect to settle the same without delay, but as the

Charter is so near expiring Your Pet^{s} are thence induced to request that your Excell^{cy} & honours will be pleased to lengthen out the said Charter for the Term of Four years, In which time the petitioners hereby promise & Engage to fulfill the Conditions required by their said Grant, and to Exclude, if your Excell^{y} & honours think proper those Grantees who have been entirely negligent as aforesaid, whose Names are as follows, Viz^{t} Alexander Steward, Alex^{r} Steward Jr. Daniel Gates Nathan Gates, Dudley Woodbridge, Oliver Woodbridge, John Steward & John Steward Jr And grant them to such of his Majestys Subjects as are willing to settle their respective Rights or shares in the said Township or otherwise as to your Excell^{cy} and honors shall seem just and right.

And your Petition^{rs} as in duty bound will ever pray.

JOSEPH SPENCER.

Portsm^{o} 28th Decemb. 1771.

Names to take the forfeted Rights in Lempster

Bozenger Salter	Richard Sparrow
John Southmayd	James Sparrow
James Dickison	Peter Spencer
Nathaniel Sparrow	

Leave one a blank Exclusive of above

These are right,
J' WENTWORTH.

LITCHFIELD.

[This town was early granted by Massachusetts as a plantation to William Brenton, and for a long period called *Brenton's Farm.* It was afterwards included in the Old Dunstable Grant, and belonged to that town until 1734, when it was set off and made a distinct Township, as appears from the following Petition. It remained under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts until 1741, when the establishment of the line between that Province and New Hampshire separated it from that Government. It was incorporated under the administration of Gov. Benning Wentworth, 5 June, 1749. JOHN FARMER.]

Petition of the Inhabitants of Litchfield for a township.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England and To the Honorable his Majestys Council for said Province.

The petition of the Inhabitants of that Tract of Land lying and being in the Province of New Hampshire by the late settlement of the Boundary between the said Province and the Province of the Massachusetts Bay by his Majesty in Council, Called and known by the Name of Litchfield most humbly

sheweth, That upwards of Sixty years past the town of Dunstable was Granted by the Government of the Massachusetts Bay and laid out.

That in the year 1734 a part of Dunstable was set off and made a distinct township by the name of Litchfield, by the Government of the Massachusetts Bay, That the inhabitants of said town acted and Governed themselves by the Laws of the Massachusetts till the settlement of the Boundary Afores[d]

That they have lately settled a minister among them, That they at present labour under Great difficulty for that they are not in a capacity to act as a Town by any authority from the Province of New Hampshire.

Wherefore your petitioners pray your Excellency and Honours in your Great Wisdom and goodness to take this petition under Consideration and to Erect the said Tract of Land which contains six miles square nearest into a township with such Powers and Priviledges as other Towns within this Province have and enjoy, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &[c]

JOSHUA CONVARSE } In behalf of the Petitioners

Feb. 16th 1741–2

Petition of inhabitants of Litchfield and Nottingham-west for the same.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General and Comander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Counsel and House of Representatives of said Province in General Court Assembled, at Portsmouth the

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The Petition of some of the Inhabitants of Nottingham and some of the Inhabitants of Litchfield humbly sheweth that your Petition[rs] After a meeting house was built in Nottingham and before any was built in Litchfield, erected a meeting house for the publick Worship of God where both we and our families might attend upon God in his house, and since that another meeting house has been set up in Litchfield, so that your Petitioners are put to the utmost difficulty to attend upon the publick Worship of God, and it is almost impossible for the rest of our families to weight upon God in his house, it being five, & for many of your petitioners more than six miles to the publick worship of God. so that we are obliged to leave our families behind us which fills those of us who have small Children with the Greatest distress imaginable lest some sore accident should befall them in our absence. And the rest of us

with the Greatest Grief and sorrow, that our families cannot accompany us to the house of God Under these distressing circumstances we have applyed ourselves, both to the town of Nottingham and Litchfield for Relief, but they have done nothing for our help, and your Petitioners have for some Considerable time maintained and Supported the publick worship of God among us at our own cost and charge, and at the same time paid our proportion toward building a meeting house, both in Nottingham and Litchfield and towards supporting the Ministry in both towns, and those of your petitioners that live in Nottingham have don our part also towards settling a minister in Nottingham. Your Petitioners Therefore do humbly pray that we may be erected into a township there being a sufficient tract of land in the North Westerly part of Nottingham, and Southeasterly part of Litchfield to make a compact Town without any predjudice to the towns of Nottingham or Litchfield only coming half way from Litchfield Line at the North westerly End of Nottingham To Nottingham meeting house and going half way from Nottingham line at the Southerly end of Litchfield, on both sides of ye river, to Litchfield meeting-house this would make a good township and would not be any Disadvantage Either to the Town of Nottingham or Litchfield And so we might all of us be accommodated for attending upon the public worship of God, But if your Hon^rs^ in your great Wisdom shall not think it for the best to Erect us into a township then our humble petition is that we may be made and invested with all the priviledges of a parish with the Bounds above mentioned or as much of the Lands within these Bounds as your Honours shall think fit and that you would be pleased to send a committee upon our cost and charge to View the towns of Litchfield and Nottingham, and Report what they shall think proper to be done for us and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Nottingham.	*Litchfield.*
John Tayler	Nathaniel Hills
Nathan Cross	Henry Hills
William Cumings	Ebenezer Spalding
Roger Chase	Joseph Kidder
John Robinson	Joseph Kidder Jr
Eleazer Cumings	Ezekiel Hills
James Baret	Joseph Polard
Moses Baret	Henry Hills, Jr
John Carhan?	Robard Melurn
John Marshal	Stephen Spalding
Edward Spalding	John Huston
John Marsh	Nathl Hills Jr
Thomas Marsh	James Hills
Benjamin Greely	Daniel Hills
Josiah Cumings	Smith Hills
	Joseph Hills
	John Horkisson.

Petition relating to the support of a minister.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General and Comander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England. December ye 25th 1742.

The petition of some of the Inhabitants of the uper part of the District Called Nottingham and some of the Inhabitants of the Lower part of the District Called Litchfield Humbly sheweth, that whereas your Petitioners have made application to your Excellency and the honourable Court of said Province set forth by a petition in the year past to be erected into a township or parish agreeable to said petition, and it has not ben your Excellency and Honourable courts pleasure to make any Confirmation to your petitioners as yet and in as much as your Petitioners circumstances is very difficult upon the acount of our being such a great distance from the publick worship of God in both places that it is almost impossible to attend the publick worship of God especially in the winter season and difficult times in the year that it is unaccountable to relate the difficulties and hardships that we our selves and families undergo in all seasons of the year, and your petitioners have for many years a grate part of the time maintained the gospel among ourselves upon our own cost and charge where we and our families May with conveniency attend upon God in his house, and under these distressing circumstances our humble petition is that your Excellency would be pleased to free all of us who has already made there application to your Excellency and the honorable Court from paying any more or further Rates and Town charges in Either of the said Towns Towards supporting ye ministry for so long a term of time until your Excellency and the honorable court shall further Determine in Answering to s^{d} Petition^{rs} who have all reddy made there application or for so long a terme of time as your Excellency in your Honors Clemency and goodness shall seem most meet.

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Nathaniel Hill	Eleazer Cumings
Ebenezer Spaulding	John Robinson
John Marshall	Edward Spaulding
Josiah Cumings	Nathan Cross
William Cumings	Josiah Dutton

Petition relating to the settlement of a minister.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt Genral and Comander in Chief in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England.

January ye 24th 1742–43.

We the Subscribers of the Districts called Nottingham and Litchfield who are your Excellencies former Humble Petitioners Beg leave to acquaint your Excellency, That we are Remain united in our earnest Desires to be Erected into a parish or Township Seperate, but in as much as your Excellency Dont as yet see fitt to grant this our Petition we Rest your Excellencies Contented Humble Subjects as to that but many who knows the Difficulties we Labour under upon the account of going with our Families to the stated places of Publick Worship of God in the Towns we Respectively Belong to and also upon the account of the Difficulties and Disturbances that seems to be Dayly arising in maney churches consarning the points of Religion and your Petitioners are all unanimously agreed as to that great and important affair have advised us to proceed in calling and settling a Gospel minister with us upon this we chose a Committee to Take the advise of the Neighbouring Ministers who Informed said Committee that they look^d^ upon it that it might be for the Glory of God and that intrest of Religion to settle one that might be able to Take us by the hand and Lead us in the way wherein we should go but notwithstanding we have had this advise and we united in our Desires to proceed yet we thought it not consistent for us to proceed till we had your Excellencies advise fearing we should incurr your Excellencies Despleasure thereby which we would Take all Lawfull means to avoid. Therefore we your Humble Petitioners Do earnestly Desire that your Excellency would stoop so Low as to Consider our circumstances and advise us and if your Excellency will give us liberty to proceed or in any measure countenance us in our proceeding so far ᵗhat wee should have Reason to think that we should not *incur* ? your Excellencys displeasure and your Excellency will still Lay us your Humble Petitioners under the greatest obligation, As in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

Nathaniel Hills	Roger Chase
Nathan Cross	Eleazer Cummings
James Hills	John Robinson
John Marshall	Josiah Dutton

Petition relating to the payment of a minister.

To His Excellency Benning Wintworth Esq. Capt. General & Governer in Chief in and over his Majes Province of New Hampshire.

Your Excellency May remember that part of the inhabitants of Nottingham & Litchfield so called Refer'd a petition to your Excellency & ye rest of ye Honorable Court in Humbly praying that we your humble petitioners with our respective Estates might be Erected into a distinct town or Parish that so we might have ye Gospel preached among us with greater conveniency, & from y incouragement that we have had from time to time from your Excellency, and others of ye honourable Court, that we should be freed from paying taxes to our respective towns & also in due time to be made a town or Parish that we have obligated ourselves to a minister one that has been with us almost three years, and is still with us, & we some time last winter gave him a unanimous invitation to settle with us in the ministry, but your Excellency was pleased to write to us and in your letter you signified that it might be proper to deferr the settlement of a minister with us till May last past & out of obedience we omitted what we have for a long time wish'd for, we understand that ye honourable court is now rise; and we your Humble Petitioners tho't it not improper to write to your Excellency not only to acquaint you of our earnest desire to have a gospel minister settled with us, but also to know of your Excellency, whether we are obliged by the late act that was made by ye honourable Court to impower Several Districts Laying by ye province Line to raise money to defray town charges to pay taxes to our respective Towns, or whether your Excellency with yn rest of y Honourable Court will Judge it sufficient for us to pay ye minister that has been with us, we humbly pray your Excellency to think of us in our dejected circumstances—so we remain part of your Excellencys former humble petitioners

Nottingham & Litchfield, August 8th 1743.

Nathaniel Hills	William Cumings
Henry Hills	Nathan Cross
John Marshall	Edward Spalden
Josiah Cumings	Roger Chase
Ebenezer Spaulding	Eleazer Cummings
James Hills	Bradbury Morison

Petition for men and military stores.

Litchfield June 12th 1744.

We the Subscribers, Inhabitants of ye town of Litchfield, Apprehending our selves Exposed to Imminent danger both

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from the french & Indian Enemies, & being in no Capacity to make a proper stand in case of an attack from them, Do constitute & appoint Mr Jonathan Powers as our delegate requesting him in the s^{d} Capacity with all Convenient speed to repair to Portsmouth & to represent our deplorable case to his Excellency our Captain General & ye General Assembly & request of them such aid both with respect of men & military stores as to their great Wisdom may think meet & which may put us in a capacity to repell all attempts of s^{d} Enemies.

James Hills
John Huchason
Joseph Pollard
John Robinson
Robert Maloon
John Taylor
Joel Dix
Jonathan Cumings
Saml Moor
Robart Richardson
John Usher
Samuel Nahor
Johanis Karr
Jacob Hildreth
Phinehas Underwood
Nathan Kendall
Christopher Tempel
David Whitemore
John Stearns
John Harwell
Timothy Underwood
Amos Kindel
John McCluer
Henry Hills
Ezekiel Hills
Henry Hills, Jr
Steven Spaulding
Thomas Mash
Alexander Colwell
James Karr
Nathan Kendall jun.
John McColestone
Benj. Blodget
Josiah Richardson
William Read
Thomas Parker
Robert Read
William Patterson
Peter Russell
Parich Richardson.

Petition of Nathan Kendall relating to boundary line.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. Genl Governor & Commander in Chief in & Over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and the Hon$^{bl e}$ His Majesty's Council for said Province, August 22^{d} 1746.

The Humble Petition of Nathan Kendall in behalf of the People Inhabiting a place called Litchfield on the Easterly side of Merrimack River shews,

That the said Inhabitants desire to make a Grateful acknowledgment of the favour which your Goodness has Inclin'd you to grant them in giving them a Charter of Incorporation as a Town & Enfranchising them with the usual Liberties Immunities & Privileges of which they desire to preserve & Cultivate a just Estimation.

That notwithstanding the fatherly Care & Tender Regard shown them in this Particular the good design & Intention is Intirely defeated, for by some Mistake or Misrepresentation

the Boundaries given in the said charter are different from what the Intention was, as they Conceive, for part of that which was called Litchfield on the Easterly side of the said River is in fact taken into Nottingham & incorporated as parcel of that Town and what is left of Litchfield is much too small for a Town & cant possibly Subsist as such & there is no place to which it can be join'd nor from whence any thing can be taken to add to it.

That as these Charters have been lately made out it is likely they may not yet be Recorded, and as there is a mistake it is not Improbable that the Inhabitants of Nottingham may agree to Deliver up their Charter & take a new one Agreeable to the Bounds Originally designed Especially if they found it to be your Excellencys & your Honours Pleasure to have it so. Wherefore your Petitioner Most Humbly prays that the Premises may be taken under Consideration & such remedy Provided as is above suggested or such as to your Wisdom & goodness shall seem meet and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall in behalf of his Principals Ever pray &c.

NATHAN KENDALL.

In Council August 23d 1746.

The within petition read & ordered that the select men of Nottingham West be ordered to Appear before ye Govr & Counll on ye 3d Tuesday of September next to shew reasons if any they have why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted & that, in Order hereto they be served with a Copy of the within Petition & this Order.

Theodr Atkinson, Secry.

Petition for a Parish on the East side of the river.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. General and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire, March ye 28th 1746.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the district of Litchfield Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners are about forty familys being a part of Dunstable old grant living on the North Easterly Corner of sd Grant That the center of our town being about eleven miles from the Province Line we had not the least apprehention of our being affected by the fixing of Towns near said Line and that your petitioners have Paid above two thirds towards the support of the Gospel for many years, and that we are not only forty families upon the Easterly side of the River but that we have Land to accomodate a considerable Number more that the Inhabitants of Litchfield on the west side of the River dont exceed thirteen or fourteen familys who we are very willing should be disannexed from us In regard to the great Danger and Defficulty which we know

they are Exposed to In Crossing the River in order to attend the Publick worship of God Notwithstanding of all which Either by our having been Inadvertantly over look'd or forgot when Instructions were given to the Committee of the Honourable Assembly for settleing the Districts in these parts or by some other means unknown to us we understand that it is Intended that we be annexed to that District upon the west side of the River and that our Center and place of Publick worship be on the westerly side which would oblige Above forty familys constantly to cross the River to our great and unspeakable danger and difficulty, In order to meet with about thirteen or fourteen famelys. May it Please your Excellency to take the Difficult case of your Petitioners under your wise consideration and so to fix things that we may not be obliged to Cross the River for although we have Lost a Number of familys on the Westerly side of the River we have accommodations on the East side that is now onsettled that is Likely in a few years to Regain the Number Lost on the other side, so that Considering the Difficulty and Danger we must be at in case we were obliged to cross s^{d} River to attend publick worship we think that we can be much better accomodated to be Erected into a town on our side and much greater satisfaction to the inhabitants. Therefore your petitioners Desire to be Incorporated with the Injoyment of all the Land on the East side of s^{d} River in s^{d} District and to be Invested with the Privilidge and Immunities as other towns in s^{d} Province are, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray.

Patrick Taggart	William Qesten
Parish Richardson	John Qusten
Hugh Nahor	James Nahor
John Butterfield	John Taylor
Jacob Hildreth	John Orr
William Richardson	Amos Kendall
Nathan Kendall	Robo't Richardson
Peter Rusel	John Huchason
Robeart Darrah	William Bonner
Alexander Parker	James Nickols
Robeart McKeen	James Darrah
Robert McKeen Jr	James McNight
Alexander Calwell	Garet Rowan
Thomas Karr	David Whittemore
John McAllester	Daniel Kendall

Petition relating to the same, as above.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire, &^{c} May ye 17th 1746.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the District of

Litchfield who are your Excellencies former Petitioners Humbly Sheweth That Whereas we have Requested to be Erected into a Town with all the Lands within the Bounds of s[d] District on the East side of the River and whereas there is a small Peeke of land lying Above Brintons farme (so called) lying about two miles on the river from the North line of said farme to the upper Corner of s[d] peeke and not Exceeding six families and not accomodations for many more, and the inhabitants in s[d] peeke signifying their indefrency as to their being Incorporated with us, and may it Please your Excellency in as much as there is a Number of Inhabitants who are taken off on the other side of the River your Petitioners Desire that the uper End of Nottingham Taking from Litchfield Lower Line down to the mouth of Nashua River, may be annexed to us the Inhabitants in s[d] part of Nottingham being well situated and about twelve or thirteen families and the farthest not Lying much more than a mile from Litchfield Line and have frequently attended publick worship with us formerly and with the addition of that part of s[d] Nottingham in case s[d] Peeke should be Disannexed from us we think we shall be well acomodated to make a Township and to maintain the Gospel among us and not to Discomode our Neighbouring Inhabitants. May it therefore Please your Excellency to take the Difficult cause of your Petitioners into your wise Consideration and fix things that we may be Incorporated & invested with town Powers and priviledges as other towns in s[d] Province are.

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

NATHAN KENDALL in behalf of s[d] Petitioners.

Jacob Hildreth	Robert M[c]Keen, Jr
Hugh Nahor	Robert Doreh
James Nahor	Amos Kendall
Alexander Park	Daniel Kendall
Alexander Colwell	Peter Russell
William Bonner	James M[c]Night
John Huchason	Thomas Karr
John Taylor	Henry White
David Campbell	Garet Rowen
John M[c]Allester	William Questen
James Nickols	John Questen
Robert M[c]Keen	David Whittemor

Petition to be included in the west division of Counties.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov[r] &c, The Hon[bl]e his Majestys Council & house of Representatives in General Assembly Convened Portsmouth y[e] 9[th] of April 1754.

Wee The Subscribers Inhabitance of Litchfield in the Prov-

ince of New Hamps^r having been Informed that sundry of the Inhabitance of this Province on the westerly side of Merrimack River have remonstrated to this Honble Assembly the necessity of this Province being divided into Two countys and pray it may be done by such Dividing Line as shall be tho't fit and in asmuch as the Town of Litchfield is situated and very Comodious to joyn with the Western Division and are at a great Distance from Portsm^o not less than fifty miles the usual travelling roads, the Place where all the Courts are held, in case we should not be Included in the West division twill lay us under very great difficulties, and no advantage to any body, besides the necessary assistance in the charge of erecting the necessary Buildings of a County.

Wherefore we Humbly Pray, That your Excellency and Hon^rs would please to grant that in stating the Dividing Line between the Countys Litchfield may be Included in the west Division and as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Thomas Parker
William Read
Alexander Calwell
William Bonner, Jr
David Kendall
William Bonner
William McKeen
William Karr
Benjamin Blodget
James Nahor
William McQuesten
Thomas Kar
Nathan Kendall
Josiah Richardson
Peter Russell
David Whittemore
Paletiah Russell
James Underwood
John Parker
Robert Darrah
Charles McClurge
Arthur Darrah
William Patterson
Andrew Cochran
John Cochran
John Butterfield

Petition of Isaac Cummings to be taxed in Nottingham-west.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq. Governour &c the Hon^r his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened at Ports^o New Hampshire, ye 3^d day of December, 1754.

The petition of Isaac Cumings of Litchfield Humbly shews, That your Petitioner when Nottingham West was Incorporated by this Government As the town lines was then Run he was Included and Taxed to all the Public Taxes of that Town, & In Special to the Building and finishing a meeting house there.

That then and ever since he has attend the Publick ministry There and is better comoded than he can be with any other town.

That about three or four years after Notting West was Incor-

porated, a Town adjoining was Incorporated by the name of Litchfield, & some Time Afterward On Remeasuring the Lines of Nottingham West and settleing them with Litchfield they left your Petitioner in Litchfield (his house and a small matter of his land) the rest of his Lands in Nottingham. Whereby your Petitioner is defeated in his Expectation & lost the Benefit of the Heavy charges he paid for building the meeting house to the necessary new Hyways as well as many other charges & Greatly Incomoded if he must attend the Publick Worship at Litchfield.

That when Nottingham meeting house was determined where to be sett they had regard to your Petitioner & considered him as one of that town & by which House he can be well accomodated.

Wherefore y^r^ Peti^r^ most Humbly prays That y^r^ Excellency & Hon^rs^ would be pleased to take the premises into Consideration and grant that he & that part of his Homestead that Lyes in Litchfield may be so far annexed to the town of Nottingham West as that he may be taxed there for all ministerial rates & Excused from the same in Litchfield & to Building & Repairs of any meeting house in Litchfield & y^r^ Petitioner as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

In Council December 12th 1764.
read & Ordered to be sent down to the Honble House.
Theod^r^ Atkinson Secry.

December 12th 1754.
We the subscribers of the Township of Nottingham, Testifies to the truth of the with in petition as follows:

Ezekiel Chase
Thomas Colburn
Joseph Winn
James Hues
Stephen Clark

Province of New Hamp^r^ } In the House of Representatives Dec. 12th 1754, Upon the reading the within Petition, Voted that the Petitioner be heard on the within Petition on the third day of the setting of the General Assembly next After the first day of March next and that he serve the selectmen of Litchfield at his own cost with a copy of this Petition and of the orders thereon to shew cause if Any they have why the Prayer of the Petition should not be granted.

Matthew Livermore
Clerk

In Council December 12th 1754
Read & Concurred,
Theod^r^ Atkinson.

Petition for a grant of a Ferry.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, In Council.

The humble Petition of Lucy Read of Litchfield in the County of Hillsborough and Province aforesaid, Widow,

Sheweth, That your Petitioners late Husband Capt William Read was in his Life time Siezed and possess'd of a Considerable tract of land on the Eastward side of Merrimac River in Litchfield aforesaid and did (without any Grant from His Majesty) improve a Ferry about three miles and an half Above Col° Lutwyches, called & known by the name of Reads Ferry, for about Twenty five years before his death, which happened about 4 years ago.

That the said William Read in his life time, and the said Lucy since his death have been at a Considerable Expence in Boats & attendance to Expedite the same Ferry, & make it commodious agreeable to Law.

Notwithstanding which premises your Petitioner is advised That the s[d] Title under the said William is precarious and sho[d] Any stranger obtain a Grant thereof it wo[d] Embarrass and greatly hurt your petitioner who has also six children by said William all now under age to maintain.

She most humbly intreats your Excellency wise tender regard of the premises to Confirm unto her the aforesaid improved and accustomed Ferry by Grant from His Majesty.

And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray &[c]

LUCY READ

Litchfield 18th May 1772.

LONDONDERRY.

[This town was originally called Nutfield, and was granted to a company of Presbyterians of Scotch origin, who emigrated from Ireland. It was settled about the 11th of April, 1719, by sixteen families, who were accompanied by Rev[d] James MacGregore, their first minister. A new parish, which is now Londonderry, was incorporated 25 February, 1740, and a second parish, now Windham, was incorporated 12 February, 1742.

The town was divided in 1827, and the old parish was incorporated by the name of Derry, while the second parish retained the name of Londonderry. ED.]

Petition of the Inhabitants of Londonderry for a Charter, 21 Sept., 1719.

[This paper was restored to the Secretary's office in 1827, after having been out of it 86 years. JOHN FARMER.]

The Humble petition of the People late of Ireland now settled at Nutfield to his Excellency the Governor and General Court assembled at Portsmouth Sepr 23^{d} 1719.

Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioners having made application to the General Court met at Boston in October last and having obtained a grant for a Township in any part of their unappropriated lands took incouragement thereupon to settle at Nutfield about the Eleventh of Aprile last which is situated by Estimation about fourteen miles from Haverel meeting House to the North West and fifteen miles from Dracut meeting House on the River merimack north and by East. That your petitioners since their settlement have found that the said Nutfield is claimed by three or four different parties by virtue of Indian Deeds, yet none of them Offered any disturbance to your petitioners except one party from Newbury and Salem. Their Deed from one John Indian bears date March the 13th Anno Dom: 1701 and imports that they had made a purchase of the said land for five pounds, by virtue of this deed they claim ten miles square Westward from Haverel line and one Caleb Moody of Newbury in their name discharged our People from clearing or any wais improving the said land unless we agreed that twenty or five and twenty families at most should dwell there and that all the rest of the land should be reserved for them.

That your petitioners by reading the Grant of the Crown of Great Britain to the Province of the Massachusetts bay, which determineth their northern line three miles from the River merrimack from any and every part of the River and by advise from such as were more capable to judge of this Affair, are Satisfied that the said Nutfield is within his Majesties Province of New Hampshire which we are further Confirmed in, because the General Court met at Boston in May last, upon our renewed application did not think fit any way to intermeddle with the said land.

That your petitioners therefore imbrace this opportunity of addressing this honourable Court, praying that their Township may consist of ten miles square or in a figure Equivalent to it, they being already in number about seventy Families & Inhabitants and more of their friends arrived from Ireland to settle with them, and many of the people of New England settling with them, and that they being so numerous may be Erected into a Township with its usual Priviledges and have a power

of making Town Officers and Laws, that being a frontier place they may the better subsist by Government amongst them, and may be more strong and full of Inhabitants:

That your Petitioners being descended from and professing the Faith and Principles of the Establist Church of North Britain and Loyal Subjects of the British Crown in the family of his Majesty King George and incouraged by the happy administration of his Majesties Chief Governour in these provinces and the favourable inclinations of the good people of New England to their Brethren adventuring to come over and plant in this vast Wilderness, humbly Expect a favorable answer from this honourable Court and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c, Subscribed at Nutfield in the name of our people Sep^{t} ye 21st 1719.

By

James Gregg
Robertt Wear.

Petition for Bills of Credit, &c.

To his Excellency the Governour and Honourable Council of New Hampshire in General Court assembled at Portsmouth Apr. 18th 1721.

The humble Petition of the People of Nutfield,

Humbly sheweth, That your petitioners are sensible of the Goodness of God and Care and Protection of his Excellency the Governour and Council of New Hampshire in supporting and defending their plantation for which they render them unfeigned Acknowledgments of duty and respect,

That your Petitioners are in a Growing condition having already Exceeded the number of three hundred and sixty souls of which there are one hundred and thirty Effective men capable to bear Arms for his Majesty King George, as his Excellency the Governour and Council may think fit to Employ them.

That altho' your petitioners have Exhausted their money in Subduing the wilderness yet they are Carrying on all the parts of good Husbandry and building a House for the worship of God;

That your Petitioners want to be incorporated, that the affairs of their settlement may be managed with greater advantage.

May it therefore please your Excellency and your Honours to give order that our people which are already so numerous may not be too much Confined in respect of room by any

newer settlement in our Neighbourhood, that Bills of Credit May be lent out unto them upon due Security in some term of years to be paid again without interest in Hemp and other product of the land in such a summ as may incourage their Husbandry and especially their building of a meeting House, and that they may be duly invested with town Priviledges by Royal Authority, And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray &c.

David Cargill
Abram Blair
Robᵗᵗ Wear
John Senter
James Nesmith
Samuel Moor
John Moor
Joseph Symons
Joseph Crosbee
Ronald Alexander
Abel Merrill
Thomas Bogell
Robᵗᵗ Doke
James Nikels
Alexʳ Nickels
Williame Nikels
John Barnet
Ja: Archibald
James Alexander
Thomas Steel
Will. Wilson
Will. Thomson
Edward Aiken
Ramin Willson
John Richey
John Wallace
Andrew Todd
William Humphry
James Lindsey
Matthew Clark
James Clark
Robᵗ Mᶜ Keen
Jo: Bar
Gabral ? Bar
Hugh Montgumery
Samuel Morison
Abraham Homs
John Blair
James Morison
John Morison
James Moore
Andrew Spavid ?

Arch: Clendinen
Alex Walker
Samuell Allisone
Will. Campbell
Allen Andrews
John Coghran
Will Coghran
Alexʳ Macneall
William Cambell
David Morison
John Archbald
James Aiken
Will. Aiken
John Bell
Will: Caldwell
John Barnet
William Eayrs
Ja: Mᶜ Gregor
David Cargill
James Mᶜkeen
James Gregg
Robert Willson
Samuel Graves
John Mᶜ Neall
John Mitchell
James Leslie
Silas Creyes
John Mᶜ Morphy
James Anderson
John Blair
James Blair
John Shilder
Beniamin Kidder
John Anderson
Robert Morisone
Stephen Peirce
Edward Proctor
John Goffe
John Goffe, Jr
Henery Green
John Cromey
John Mᶜ Conochey ?

Charter of Londonderry.

Seal of Londonderry Charter

George by the Grace of God of Great Britain France & Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c.

To ALL PEOPLE to whom these presents Shall come, Greeting: Know ye, That we of our Especial Knowledge and meer motion for the due Encouragement of settling a new plantation by and with the advice and Consent of our Council have Given and Granted and by these presents as far as in us lyes, do give and grant in Equal shares unto Sundry of our Beloved Subjects whose Names are Entered unto a Schedule hereunto annexed That Inhabit or shall inhabit within the said Grant within our Province of New Hampshire all that Tract of Land within the following Bounds Being ten miles square or so much as amounts to Ten miles square and no more—Beginning on the North East Angle at a Beach Tree marked which is the south East angle of Chester and Running from thence due South on Kingstown Line four miles and an half and from thence on a West Line one mile and three Quarters and from thence South six miles and an half and from thence West north West nine miles and an half, and from thence North Eleven miles and an half from thence north north East Three miles from thence East South East one mile and from thence South South West to the South West Angle of Chester and from thence on an East Line Bounding on Chester Ten miles unto the Beach Tree first mentioned. And that the same be a Town Corporate by the name of Londonderry to the persons aforesaid forever, provided Nevertheless and the True Intent and meaning of these presents is any thing to the contrary Notwithstanding, that Nothing in this our said Grant shall extend to or be understood to extend to Defeat prejudice or make null and void any claim Title or pretence which our Province of the Massachusetts Bay may have to all or any part of the Premises Granted as aforesaid or the Right Claim Property or Demand of any Private Person or Persons by Reason and means of all or any part of the said Granted Premises falling within the Line as Boundaries of our said Province of the Massachusetts Bay. To Have and to Hold the said land to the Grantees and their Heirs and assigns forever upon the following Conditions, Viz^{t}

1st That the Proprietors of every share Build a Dwelling House within three years and settle a Family therein and Break up three acres of Ground and plant or sow the same within four years and pay his or their proportion of the Town charges when and so often as occasion shall require the same.

2dly That a meeting House be built within four years.

3dly That upon Default of any particular proprietors in Complying with the Conditions of this Charter on his part such delinquent proprietor shall forfeit his share to the other proprietors to be Disposed of by Vote of the Major part of the proprietors. And in case of an Indian Warr within four years more after the said Warr is ended for performance of these conditions the said men and Inhabitants also Rendering and paying for the same to us our Heirs and successors or to such officer or officers as shall be appointed to Receive the same the annual Quit Rent or acknowledgment of one Peck of Potatoes on the first day of October yearly for ever Reserving also to us our Heirs and Sucessors all mast Trees Growing on said Tract of Land according to the acts of Parliament in that behalf made and provided and for the better order Rule and Government of the said Town We do by these presents grant for us our Heirs and successors unto the said grantees that yearly and every year upon the fifth day of march for ever except upon the Lords day and then upon the monday next following they shall meet elect and

choose by the Major part of the electors present all Town officers according to the Laws and usage of the other Towns within our said province for the year ensuing with such power privilidges and authoritys as other Town officers in our province aforesaid do Enjoy as also that upon every Wednesday in the Week for ever they may Hold Keep and enjoy a market for the buying and selling of goods Wares and Merchandize and all Kind of Creatures, endowed with the usual priviledges, profits and Immunities as other market Towns usually hold possess and enjoy and Two Fares annually for ever the first to be held or kept within the said Town on the Eighth day of October next and so De anno in annum for ever and the other on the eighth day of May following in like manner provided if it should so Happen that either of the days fall on the Lords then the said Fares shall be held and kept the day following, and that the said Fare shall have hold and possess the libertys, Priviledges and Immunities that other Fares in other Towns usually possess Hold & Injoy.

In Witness whereof we have Caused the seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness, Samuel Shute, Esq Our Governour and Commander in Chief of our said Province, the 21st day of June Anno Domini 1722, and in the Eighth year of our Reign.

SAMUEL SHUTE.

By advice of the Council.

Richard Waldron, Cler.

Copy Examined,

Theodore Atkinson Secry.

The Schedule of the names of the Proprietors of Londonderry.

John Moore 1. Share
Abel Morril 1.
James Morrison 1.
Robert Willson 1.
Randel Alexander 1.
John Mitchel 1.
Samuel Moore 1.
Robert Doake 1.
Archibel Clandinins 1.
John Archibels 1.
Alexander Walker 1.
John Barnet 1.
James & John Doak 1.
John Clark 1
James M°Keen, & Son 2.
Henry Green 1.
James Anderson 1.
Jonathan Taylor 1.
James Nickels 1.
James Alexander 1.
Alexander Nickels 1.
William Nickols 1.
Coll° John Wheelwright 1.
David Morrison 1.
William Humphry 1.
Edward Procter 1.
Samuel Morrison 1.

John Barr & Sons 2.
Benjamin Kidder 1.
Abraham Holmes 1.
David Crag & William Gilmore } 2.
John Gray 1.
John Given 1.
John Stuart 1.
Joseph Kidder 1.
William Ayers 1.
Thomas Steal 1.
John Goffe 1.
Thomas Bogel 1.
Samuel Graves } 1.
John Crummy }
Elizabeth Willson & Daughter Mary } 1-2
Samuel Allison 1.
Martha Clark 1.
Samuel Graves, Jr. 1.
John Goffe Jr. 1.
John Morrison 1.
James Linsey 1.
Stephen Pearce 1.
Robert Wier 1.
James Lesly 1.
Andrew Spaldin 1.

Allen Anderson 1.
John Anderson 1.
Alexander Mac Murphy & James Leget } 1-2.
Mr McGregore & Sons, 3.
James Blair 1.
James McGregore for servant } 1-2
James Nesmith 1.
John Blare 1.
James More 1.
James Clarke 1.
William Grage 1.
John Grage 1.
James Grage & Sons 2.
William Willson and John Rickey } 1.
David Cargil Jr. 1.
William Tompson 1.
Hugh Montgomery 1.
Robert Morrison 1.
Alexander McNeal 1.
William Camill 1.
Capt David Cargil 1.
Robt Boyes 1.
John McMurphy 1.
John McNeal 1.
John Archibald Jr. 1
James McNeal 1.
Daniel McDoughty 1-2
Samuel Huston 1.
John Shields 1-2
James Rodgers 1-2
Joseph Simmons 1.
Elias Keyes 1.
John Roby 1.
John Senter 1.
Robert MacKeen 1.
Jenet, Samuel and John McKeen } 1
William Cochran 1.
David Bogel 1-2
John, Peter and Andrew Cochran } 1
James Grage
Samuel Graves &
Robert Boise } 1.
James Ackin 1
William Ackin 1
Edward Ackin 1.
John Wallace 1.
Benjamin Willson 1.
Andrew Todd 1.
John Bell 1.
Capt Cargill for 2 Servants } 1.
George Clark 1-2
Thomas Clark 1-2
Nehemiah Giffen 1-2
James McGlason 1-2
The parsonage Lot 1.
John Barnet Jr. 1.
John McConey 1
John Woodbourn 1
John Maclarge 1-2 ?
Benning Wentworth 1.
Richard Waldron Jr. 1.
Lieutenant Governor Wentworth 1.
Robert Armstrong 1.
Robert Auchmuty 1.

Memorandum over & above what is already given in this schedule is added to Mr McGregore 250 acres, to Mr McKeen 250, to Mr David Cargil 100 acres to Mr James Grage 150, to John Goffe 100, for good service and to the Two last mentioned, vizt Grage and Goffe a mill Stream within the said Town for their good Services in promoting the settlement of the said Town.

Richard Waldron,
Clr. of the Council

Province of New Hampshire } June 21st 1722. Admitted Proprietors and Commoners in the town of Londonderry with the Persons mentioned in the Schedule His Excellency Governor Shute, a Home Lot and 500 acres, His Honour Lieutenant Governour Wentworth a Home Lot & 500 acres Samuel Penhallow Esq. 1 share. Mark Hunking 1 share, George Jaffrey 1, Shadrack Walton 1 Richard Wibird 1, Thomas Westbroke, 1, Thomas Packer 1, Archibald M^{c}pheadris 1.

Richard Waldron
Clr of the Council.

Province of New Hampshire } Enter'd and Recorded according to the original the 15th Day of June 1743.
Pr. Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Copy Examined,
P Theodore Atkinson, Secry
Copy Examin'd, p. Geo: Jaffrey, C.

Petition about running the lines.

To the Honourable the Lieu[t] Governour and Council of New Hampshire.

The humble petition of James MacKeen and James Greg in the name of the people of Nutfield, Humbly Sheweth.

That your Petitioners are deeply sensible of the divine goodness in disposing the Honourable Lieu[t] Governour and Council of this Province from time to time to father and support our settlement.

That our Plantation is very numerous for the time, that our first divisions are filled with Inhabitants, and that we are ready to lay out and fill up Second divisions.

That we find ourselves too much confined in respect of room by the lines of Dunstable and Haverill and having no other way to enlarge ourselves but to the Northward, we did on the eighteenth day of April last run a line from the most northerly Angle or corner of Haverill a mile and half Westward, and then turned Northward; That the people of Cheshire have lately run a divisional line too close upon us and have cut off diverse of our homestedd divisions; which was the more surprising to us in regard it was done without our Knowledge. Tho' the people of Cheshire were ordered by the honourable Lieut Governour Wentworth, before they did run the additional line, which themselves had consented to run west North west from the Peke of Haverill, to give us advertisement.

May it therefore please your honours to give orders for the running of a West north west Line from the said Corner of Haverill as a mean between our Line and that of Cheshire, and that our second divisions which we are now ready to lay out and fitt up along the said line may not be disturbed in their settlement, And y[r] Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray &[c].

Petition relating to common lands.

Province of New Hampshire } To the Hon[ble] John Wentworth Esq. Lieut Gov[r] & Comander in Chief in & over his Maj[tey's] Province of New Hampshire & to the Hon[ble] y[e] councill & house of Representatives in Gen[ll] Court assembled.

The petition of us y[e] subscribers, Inhab[ts] & prop[r] of Londonderry within his Maj[ys] Province Most Humbly Sheweth.

That in y[e] year 1722, By the special Grace & bounty of this Gover[mt], yo[r] Pete[rs] & Sundry others of his Majestys Most Duty full Protestant subjects were embodied into a Township & favoured with a Charter for y[e] Town by y[e] name of London-

derry and were thereby entitled to all ye Priviledges, Right &c Imunitys y^t^ other Towns in ye s^d^ Province usually hold & enjoy, y^t^ in May 1723 the s^d^ town voted y^t^ three men should Lay out ye wants of homesteads and amendments & to y^t^ David Cargill, Wm Aiken & Jn MacMurphy were appointed ye three men, on ye 20 of Jany 1723-4 it was also voted ye committee before appointed to lay out wants of homestead & amendm^ts^ shall lay out ye same quantity, quality Distence & Conveniency considered, y^t^ on ye 6th of March 1726-7, Andrew Todd, Wm Aiken & Jn Mc Murphy were Chosen a comittee for laying out ye wants of Homesteads, Highway Land & Amendm^ts^ tho y^r^ Petit^rs^ humbly observe there were some y^t^ put in their disent ag^ast^ ye same, y^t^ ye s^d^ committee with^t^ taking any previous oath to ye true & faithfull Discharge of ye trust reposed in them as affores^d^ proceeded in their work, but with what equality & justice will appear to y^or^ hon^rs^ from very many Instances to long to be enumerated in ye body of this petition; but by a paper here to annexed with reference thereunto being had more fully will appear y^t^ after ye s^d^ Comittee had thus with^t^ any regard to proportion & Justice; but in so doing served not only ye interest of y^m^selves but of such others who were so happy as to gain their fav^r^ at ye Expence of Many of ye old prop^rs^ Interest & Just Right & Title in such comon & undevided lands as they thus unequally laid out y^t^ ye s^d^ Lott layers with^t^ even acquainting ye s^d^ town with these their s^d^ proceedings for approbation, or according to Law equity & Good Conscience they ought to Do, gave to such persons as they laid out to Coppy^s^ of thair respective Lotts, who Imedately recorded ye same in ye Province & Toun Records, y^t^ most of ye substantial & well thinking prop^rs^ of ye s^d^ Town being Justly alarmed at these extraordinary & unprecentall proceedings at a town meeting Sometime in August last, Voted ye Actings & Doings of ye s^d^ Comittee to be null & void as by s^d^ Vote more fully will appear to y^r^ hon^rs^ whereupon It was to be hoped y^t^ ye same would put an end to ye unhappy distractions & Divisions of s^d^ Town. But so it is: and so a prop^r^ y^t^ this Day had a part Interest thro out ye whole town, tomorrow has not half ye Interest & ye next Day regains his s^d^ Right & Interest & ye day following is stript of ye same & all this done with^t^ any act of his own but by a maj^r^ Vote Pretended and thus Right & property is evidently rendered uncertain & fluctuating & *misera est Servilus ubi Jus est vacuum* & by ye same doctrine& Rule ye Maj^r^ vote may give or lay out all ye right and property of ye minority from them

That y^or^ petit^rs^ endeavoured to Conciliate these differences by having ye same determined by Indifferent who should examine ye Justice & equality of ye s^d^ comittee in their several

layings out as aforesd but ye same were rejected & all other overtures tho ever so reasonable that thus ye Harmony peace & prosperity of sl Toun Inevitably will be lost witht the interposition of ye Honble & this great & Genll Court, for ye differences are of yt Genll & publick nature yt ye ordinary proceedings in ye Common Law courts will be so farr from cureing yt they will only put ye town into a greater flame by ye multiplicity of suits yt therein naturally must arise & wch will also Tend to ye great Impoverishmt of ye sd proprs wherefore it has been ye great wisdom grace & fervour of this great & Genll Court & ye gr & Genll Court of ye neighbouring province always to interpose in cases of so publick & complicated a nature where ye prosperity of a comunity is so nearly engaged & either upon Publick hearings Imediately to enact & order therein as to their Known Wisdom, & experienced Justice seems most meet or either to appoint a committee to examine & Inspect sd Grievances & make a Report thereof for ye Legislature to pass thereupon, wherefore yr distressed & Grieved Petitrs are encouraged to approach yor honrs to whose goodness they owe their present Right & possession & from whence they expect ye same will be preserved unto them, & as it is their bounden duty will ever pray &c.

(N. B. If I am mistaken as to facts, correct the same.)

John Barnet
John Goffe
Samuel Graves
John Blarr
James Blair
James McCartney
John Anderson
Gabrall Barr
John Harvey
Thomas Siell
Robt Wear
John Barnet, Jr
Hugh Wilson
John Stuart
Samuel Allison
James Morison

John Barr
Samuell Barr
Archibald Clendenin
William Umfra ?
Nathaniel Aiken
John Morison
John Mitchell
Daved Bogall
Thomas Bogall
Hugh Ramsey
Thomas Cochren
John Craig
Samuel Morison
Abraham Holmes
David Morison.

Jany 26th 1727. In the house of Representatives.

The above Petition being Read, ordered that the Petitioners serve the opposite parties concerned, with a copy of the petition and that they appeare each partie the second day of the sitting of the Genll Assm In ye Spring session & to be heard in the premises.

James Jeffrey Clr Assmt

In Consl Eod Die.

Read and Concurred.

R. Waldron, Clr. Con.

Oaths to be taken.

I ——— Do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithfull and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the second.

I — — Do swear that I do from my heart abhor detest and abjure as impious and heretical that damnable doctrine & position that princes Excomunicated or deprived by the Pope or any Authority of the see of Rome may be deposed or muther'd by their Subjects or any other whatsoever. And I do declare that no foreign Prince Person prelate State or Potentate hath or ought to have any Jurisdiction power authority preeminence or authority ecclesiastical or spiritual within the realm of Great Brittain.

So help me God.

I ——- - do truly and sincerely acknowledge profess Testify & declare in my conscience before God and the world, That our Sovereign Lord King George the second is lawfull & rightfull King of the realm of Great Britain and all other His Majᵗˡᵉˢ Dominions and Countrys thereunto belonging, And I do solemnly and sincerely declare that I do believe in my conscience, that the Person pretended to be Prince of Wales during the life of the late King James, and since his decease pretending to be and taking upon himself the Stile & title of King of England by yʳ names of James the third or of Scotland by yᵉ names of James yᵉ eighth or the stile & title of King of Great Britain hath not any right or title whatsoever to the crown of the realm of Great Britain or any other the Dominions thereto belonging. And I do renounce refuse and Abjure any Allegiance or obedience to him. And I do swear that I will bear faith and true allegiance to His Majesty King George the second and him will defend to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatsoever which shall be made against his Person Crown or Dignity: And I will do my utmost endeavour to disclose and make known to his majesty and his successors all treasons & traitorous conspiracies which I shall know to be agˢᵗ him or any of them, And I do faithfully promise to the utmost of my power to support maintain and defend the succession of the crown agᵗ him the sᵈ James and all other Persons whatsoever, which succession by an act Entitled an act for yᵉ further limitation of the crown and better securing the rights and liberties of yᵉ subjects is and stands limited to yᵉ Princess Sophia Electress & Dutchess Dowager of Hanover, and the heirs of her body being Protestants, and all these things I do plainly and sincerely acknowledge and swear according to these express words by me spoken and according to yᵉ plain & common sense and understanding of the same words without any Equivocations mental evasion or secret reservation whatsoever. And I do make this recognition acknowledgmᵗ, abjuration renunciation and promise heartily willing and truly upon yᵉ true faith of a Christian.

So help me God.

Names of persons who took the above Oaths.

David Cargill
James McKeen
James Harvey
John Goffe
Hugh Montgomery
James Morison
John Mitchell
Jesse Criste
James Rodgers
James Leslie
John Goffe, Jr
Solomon Hopkin
James Adams
James Tagart
John Tagart
Samuel Houston
Patrick Douglas
Robert Cochran

John Adames
Thomas Wilson
James Wallis
Alexander Walker
James Reid
John Macmurphy
David Macduffie
John Morison
Jonathan How?
Alexander Macneall
Thomas Mackelme
Robtt Wear
Archiball Clendenin
William Moor
John Barnet
Archibald Mac Murphy
Robert Kennedy
Moses Barnett
Samuel Morison
James Blair
James Taggart
John Barnet
Andrew Clendenin
Jon. Woodburn
Thomas Cochran
David Hunter
Allen Anderson
Petter Cochran
James Gillmor
Robt Morison
Alexander Kelsey
David Cargill
Andrew Todd
James Calwell
James Caldwood
James Alexander
William Gregg
John Barr
John Cromey
William Nickell
John Gregg
John
James Nesmith
James Thompson
Matthew Clark
Robert McKean
Samuel McKeen
John Cochran
Charels McClarey
his
John £ Neale?
mark
his
Willm & Kellso
mark
William Thomson
his
Alexander ∽ Renkine
mark
John X Conahie
mark
Peter Coghran
Thomas Watte
John Blair
James Lindsey
John Douglas
John Archibald
John ———?
John McClourg
Rus. Buron
Robt Thomson
Thomas Seiell?
Gab: Bar
James Rueys
Nathaniel Aiken
Jon. Hollms
Hugh Wilson
Robert Arbuckel
John Hopkin
John Archibel
David Anderson
John Anderson
Samuel Renkin
Wilam Cochran
Wimen Cochran
John Moore
William Aiken
James Clark
Jon Harvey
Abner Nickels
Sam: Todde
James Moor
Samuel Allison
William Gillmor
James Andrews
John Craig
William Eayrs
James Willson
Robert Gillmore
Samuell Gregg
Angus Brown
his
Willm X Adams
mark
Benjamin Kidder
Thomas Bogall
Benjamin Willson
John Anderson
Abraham Holme
Alexander McMurphy
John Blear
James Smith

David McGregore
Christopher Airs
Samuel Greaves
Hugh Rogers
William Coghran
James Aiken
—— Blair
William Eayrs

David Morison
James Campbell
Benjamin Chamberlain
John McNeill
Samuell Barr
Joseph Irrvine

Londonderry 7ber 9th 1727.

The severall persons above mentioned took their oaths according to act of Parliament.

Petition about division of town lands.

To the Honble John Wentworth Esq. Lieut Governr and Comandr in Chief in & over His Majties Province of New Hampr And to the Honble the Council and representa Conven'd in Genll Assembly for sd Province.

The Humble petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants & Proprietors of yc town of Londonderry, Humbly sheweth,

That there has not been a Just & Equall Division of the land Among the Proprietors, the Majr part of said Proprietors having taken their choice of ye land and also Voted to themselves Large Tracts for Amendments and past severall other Votes to ye prejudice of the rest as pr the town book will appear.

And so yor Petitioners altho' we have Equall right (by Charter) wth the rest of the proprietors and have always paid our full proportion of the Town charge and some of us were some of the first settlers, yet we have been denyed yc privilege of drawing our lotts. So that ye Division is not only Contrary to the Practice of ye other New Towns, but also against reason & Equity & the Intent of the Charter yor Petitioners therefore Humbly pray for relief and they will (as in duty bound) ever pray.

ROBERT WIARE } being a Committee chosen
JOHN BARR } in behalf of ourselfs and others.

In Coun. May 18th 1728.

Upon reading the within Petition ordered, That the hearing thereon be on thursday next ye 23d Inst at 3 o'clock P. M. and That the Petitioners serve the selectmen of Londo Derry wth a copy thereof and this order in ye mean Time.

R. Waldron, cler. Con.

Sent down for concurrance.

May 18th 1728. In the House the above vote read & concur'd.

James Jaffrey Clr. Assm

Differences about lands adjusted.

At a Proprietors meeting held at Londonderry April ye 15th 1728.

Upon the above said day it is Votted that all the Differences concerning Mendment land Highway land and want of homestead land is aggreed in the manner following viz:

That all persons that have allready Claim'd any land for the wants of the above mentioned lands, shall hold their claims having them viewed or viewed over, by a Committee of three men one of which shall be one that hath one of the poorest lots, and another of the men shall be one of them that hath one of the midway lots, and the third man of said Committee a man that hath one of the good lots, and brought to the method wth we shall hereafter Insert (viz). That the man that gets or hath gotten said land above mentioned at one mile distance or under shall have one acre of land, made as good as one acre of the president the lots were viewed by, for every acre they were allowed by the Committee chosen for viewing the home lots and so Gradually rising one quarter of an acre, for each half mlle, said land lieth distant from the sundry lots which are to have said land above mentioned, until it come to the Quantity of two acres made good as above for every acre that they are Allow'd for the wants above said, which will be at the distance of three miles, and so rise no more for any distance or consideration whatsoever, and they that have not yet got their above said land or claims, shall have liberty to put in their claims, they that want most or allow'd most claiming first and so on untill it come to the smallest quantity which is allowed to any for the wants above mentioned said land to be formed into ranges that so the commons may be laid out in order and the land that is to be viewed over which is already laid out shall be done at the cost of the town, and they that have bought any of the highway land and are not sattisfied with the method are to return said land and take their money, which they paid for said land again, and when more than one man is allowed an equal quantity of the above lands, they shall come to the Division of a Lot who shall claim first and every proprietor is to have twenty acres added to his claim or mendment, all Differences and Debeats whatsoever in our town Concerning land is done away in this vote. Vote, that the twenty acres above mentioned is to be laid out Quantity and Quality only considered.

And it is also voted on the aforesaid Day that three men shall serve and are chosen to lay out the lands above mentioned, the name of the men are as followeth:

JOHN MITCHELL
JOHN ARCHIBALD
JOHN WALLACE

Vera Copia
Pr. John MacMurphy
Town Clerk.

Petition for redress of injustice.

To the honourable John Wentworth Esq. Leu^tt^ Governor commander in Chieff of the Prov. of Hampshr and Generall Assembly of both houses

The humble petition of the Subscribers to this Honorable Assembly, wee complean of wrong don to us and grivoos in-

justice in laying outt of our land by unjust methods viz. that a part of our proprietors have taken ther chois of all our comons and we are nott allowed nether lott nor chois and rendered *unsheur* of having our hom lotts made Equall with others, one method Dos not prevall hear to do as they wold be done by. Wee the Complenentt Desire and make requeast for a practicable reull that may yealld Saiftty to every party and thatt a magor vott may nott cutte any ? propriator outt of his right by design or conning which shell further appear by a paper annexed hereunto, which will make it appear mor fully to have ben practised hear on propertie hurttofore another the complainentt Seke for redress from this Honourable house and your Pettitioners shall ever pray.

May the 15th 1728.

John Barnet
Samuel Allison
William Nickels
John Anderson
James Morison
Archiball Clendenin
John Stuart
John Morison
William Umfra
John Barr
Robtt Wear
Samuell Barr
John Barnet
Gabriall Barr

Petition of Londonderry respecting aggressions.

To his Excellency William Burnet Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire In New England &c and the Honourable Council now assembled att Portsmo

The Humble petition of the Inhabitants of Londonderry within said province Humbly sheweth.

That, Whereas your petitioners have had no molestation in our setelment since we had a Charter from His excellency Govr Shute and the Honourable Council of this Province till of Late By Haverhill and methuine who have setled upon our Land and by authority from the Massachusets province have carried off Imprisoned and prosecuted and condemned our people in their Courts to our Detriment above two Hundred pounds which hath greatly Impoverished yr poor petitioners and notwithstanding the mutual agreemt made by yr Excellency and the Honorable Councils of Both Provinces that no setlement nor improvements should be made by any till the division of the Divisional Line, yett the people of yc province of the Massachusets are clearing and carying on all manor of work upon the River near which we know or township extends.

May it therefore please yr Excellency and the Honourable Council to consider the premises and grant Relief as soon as it

can be agreeable and consistent with y^r^ opportunity and y^r^ petitioners shall ever pray.

April 30, 1729.

ALLEN ANDERSON
JOHN ARCHIBALD
JAMES REID
} Select men.

Petition against Haverhill people.

To His excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Govern^r^ and Commander in chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hamps to the Honourable the Council and Representatives in Gen^ll^ Assembly Conven'd

The petition of the Inhabitants of the town of Londonderry most humbly sheweth.

That in as much as the Inhabitants of the Town of Haverhill do often disturb sundry of your Petitioners in their quiet possession of their Lands granted to them by their charter under their pretensions of a Title thereto, we pray that the government may help and assist us in the defence of our title and possessions, or to take some method as in your wisdom you shall think best to prevent our being impoverished, if not ruined by Law Suits which are daily multiplied by them.

We pray that some act or order may be passed for the preventing any Law Suits Concerning the Lands near the Line until that be setled.

We pray that your Excellency and the Honourable Assembly will please to relieve us either by clearing us from the paying of Province Rates or to postpone our proportion of the Province Rates already assessed upon us, that we may be in some measure enabled to pay some Hundreds of pounds which we already owe by reason of those many Law suits in which we have been engaged and for the securing of such sums of money wee are willing and ready to mortgage our Lands.

So we shall ever pray as in duty bound &^c^

27th Augt 1730.

JAMES M^c^KEEN
JOHN MACMURPHY

In the behalfe of the rest of the Inhabitants of Londonderry.

Petition relating to Minister's tax and a new parish.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq Governor & Commander In chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England, The Honble His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said province In General Court assembled the 31st day of January Anno Domini 1739.

The Petition of Sundry Persons Inhabitants of the Town of Londonderry in the province aforesaid Humbly Sheweth,

That the Inhabitants of the said Town at a Town meeting In the year 1736, thinking it most expedient for their accommodation & Satisfaction To have the Town divided into two Parishes or Districts (as to their ecclesiastical affairs) accordingly then Voted a Dividing Line setting forth the course thereof in the vote and shortly after a Petition was Preferr'd to the General Court by the principal part of the Inhabitants living in the western part of the said Town praying that they might be erected & Incorporated Into a New Parish agreeable to the Boundaries mentioned in the said vote.

That altho the matter was not then fully effected yet so much was Done Pursuant to the said Petition that the Petitioners with their associates then & ever since have maintained a Gospel Minister among themselves & have look'd on themselves as a distinct Church & Congregation from that in the other part of the Town and as to affairs of that nature have acted separately tho perhaps in strictness of Law not absolutely & compleatly Disannexed and separated from the other part of the Town.

That the constant standing Rule of Raising the ministers Salary there ever since the settlement of the said Town has been to Levy a tax on the pews or seats in the meeting house which the Proprietors or occupants under them have always paid, so that those who could not be rank'd under one of those heads paid nothing towards the said Salary.

That soon after the vote above mentioned the inhabitants of the said Western part of the Town proceeded to settle the Reverend Mr David Magregore as their minister who was accordingly ordained to the Pastoral office amongst them and he being a Gentleman with whose ministerial abilities and Moral Character your Petitioners (as well as all the said Inhabitants) are well satisfied and under whose ministry they sit with Pleasure, they are therefore more Solicitously Concern'd that he might be supported Suitable To his Character & Station. That however desirous your Petitioners (& their associates) have been to afford their said minister an Honorable maintainance they have not yet been able but barely to allow him a comfortable subsistence by reason of the unsettled condition they are in &

of the unhappy disputes controversies & Law suits between them & the other part of the said Town by whom they have allways been (as they think unreasonably) oppos'd In matters that Relate to the Premises which situation of affairs has also greatly disturb'd the peace of both societies & perhaps much Impeded not only the discharge of Christian duties but even the offices of Good neighborhood between them. That your Petitioners & their party have however at one time & another made all the overtures to their opponents that could in reson be expected for adjusting & ending the said differences & Issuing all their Controversies in an amicable manner which have hitherto prov'd fruitless & Ineffectual for that purpose, and they are not only still Subsisting but seem to be carried to a greater Length & are risen to a higher Pitch now than ever.

That notwithstanding the afore 'sd rule & method of raising the ministers Salary in the said Town the said party, your petitioners opponents who are the Major part of the Town have lately voted that the support of ye ministry among them (tho. they have at present no settled minister) shall be by a tax Levied on the whole Town in General without distinction thereby subjecting Mr Magregore's Congregation to pay toward the maintainance of the other minister or the supply of the other desk at the same time they maintain their own of themselves which seems to be a scheme projected purely to oppress & dishearten that Congregation or at least their present minister. That they are still willing to comply with any reasonable terms of Terminating the said differences but as the said Contending parties are never like to fix on such terms themselves your Petitioners in behalf of the said Congregation fly to this Honble Court for aid and therefore Humbly Pray that the said Congregation with such others as are willing to join them (not exceeding the one half of the Town) may be freed & exempted from paying to any other ministers salary than their own & all other charges of ye nature of Parish charges & may have Parish powers & authorities granted to them, or that both the ministers of the said Town for the time being may be Supported by an assessment on the whole town in Common according to the method of defraying Town charges in other Towns or that such other Redress may be Provided for your petitioners & their associates as this Honble Court in their great wisdom & Goodness shall think proper & yr Petitionrs as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

James McKeen
John Creaig
James Adams
Hugh Moungtroy
John Jamison
Nathaniel Ekin
Daniel M'afee
James Gregg
James Lindsay
Robt Martin
John Blair
James Blair

John Wallas
Matthew Reid
James Willison
Thomas Boyd
Archibald MacMurphy
Robart Arbuckell
John Mack
John Taget
John Gregg
William Gregg
James Adams, Jr
John Archibald
John McKeen
John Cohran, Senr
Thomas Gregs
Robt Campbell
John Duncan
John Ritchy
Robert Norris
Peter Tufft
Robt Anderson
Wiilm Addams
David Hunter
Willm Robertson
James Moore
Tho: Jamison
Tho: Boies
James Nesmith
Hugh Brown
Edward Ackin
James Tagart
Allexr Patterson
James Nesmith Jr.
Willm Acking
James Rodgers
John. MacMurphy
Willm Thompson
Samll Gregg
William Craig
Hugh Gregg
Hugh Moore
Robt Morrison
Charles Maclary
Willm Dickey
Elias Dickey
Samll Boyd
James Leslie
James Smith
John Anderson
Willm Smith
Samll Smith
Arthur Nesmith
James Anderson

Samll Anderson
Tho: Anderson
Robt Morrison Jr.
Adam Dickey
George Knox
Matt: Taylor
Andw Cochran
Willm Nutt
Willm Galt
James Galt
David Dicky
John Woodburn
James McNight
Willm Gambell
John Craig.
John Anderson
Arch'd McCurdy
Robert McCardy
Samll Barr.
James Anderson
Tho: Tippin
Alexr Macmurphy
Willm Jamison
John Cochran
George Duncan
John Stewart
Gabriel Barr
James Clark
Samll Grahams
Hugh Grahams
Robt Dinsmore
Robt Anderson
John Hopkins
Samll Ranking
Samll McKeen
Peter Pattyson
George Duncan, Jr
Willm Duncan
James Moore Senr
Nath Boyd
James McKeen, Jr
Samll Huston
David Huston
Hendry Mountgomery
John Dickey
Will. McNeal
David Burnsides
Robt Hopkins
John Orr
John Goffe
James Reid
Arche McCormuck
Jas Eyars. No. 114.

In the House of Representatives Feb. the first 1739-40. The within Petition Read & Voted, vizt. That the Petition^{rs} serve the select men of the Town of Londonderry with a copy of this Petition (at the Peti-

tioners Charge) And that they appeare to be heard Tuesday the twelfth Curr^{t} to shew cause why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted (if the Court is then sitting) if not then the third day of the sitting of the Gen^{ll} Ass^{m} next sessions.

James Jeffry Cler. Ass^{m}.

In Coun. Feb. 6th 1739-40,
Richd Waldron Secry.

Feb. 6th 1739-40.

I assent to the above Votes.

14th FEB. 1740 J. BELCHER.

In the House of Representatives Feb. 14th 1739-40

The within petition read, and the partys heard by their Council, the House having considered thereof. Voted that there be an assessment made on the whole Town in Common according to the method of defraying Town Charges in other Towns for three years now next ensuing for the ministers Rates and that the same be applyed and pay'd to the ministers each his respective Salary already agreed for: and that the Rate already made be gathered and applyed in the same manner, and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry Cl. Ass^{m}

In Coun. Feb. 15th 1739-40
Read and non Concurred.
R. Waldron, Secry

9th FEB. 1740

Counter Petition.

We the under Subscribers being Inhabitants of L: Derry and province of New Hampshire (viz) living in the Southerly part of s^{d} town, we are Informed that their are Sundry of our Neighbours Petitioners your Excell^{y} and Hon^{rs} for a new parish in s^{d} Town, therefore we wod signify to your Excell. & Hon^{rs} that we hope by the blessing of God in a fue years to be fit to be Erected into a parish or precinct by ourselve theirfore we pray your Excell. and Hon^{rs} not to hurt our yong beginings in setting off a new parish in said town of Londonderry, as wittness our hands. Dated at Londonderry aforesaid Feby the 9th 1739-40.

John Kille
Jam^{s} Gillmore
Sam^{ll} Morison
Halbert Morison
Ezekiel Morison
Thos Morison
Willm Thorn
John Creige
John Gillmor
Jam^{s} Bell
Willm Bolton
John Bolton
Alex^{r} Richey
John Merrow
Thomas Quigley
John Vance
Jam^{s} Colwell
Jam^{s} Colwell, Jr
Jam^{s} Dunlap
David Greage
William Greage
Sam^{ll} McAddams
Nathanell Hamphill
Charels Dourach, Jr
John Stuart
John Aram Strong
John McCay
Robart Thomson
Alexander Dunlap
John Willson

Alex[r] Park	William Campbell
Robart Park	Hendry Camdbell
Joseph Waugh	John Cochron
Samuell Campbell	Jon. Cochran Jr.

11th FEB '40

Answer of Selectmen of Londonderry.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, the Honourable his Majesties Council for s[d] province and the House of Representatives in General assembly Convened.

The Answer of the selectmen of Londonderry to a petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of s[d] Toun for a new parish, shews,

That at the General Court held at portsmouth in and for said Province in April 1736 there was a petition preferred to the General Court of s[d] province that there might be a parish set off in the westerly part of s[d] toun agreeable to a vote of s[d] toun, that then the General Court was pleased by a Vote to set off a parish in the westerly part of s[d] toun and that the meeting House or place of worship should be where it then Stood in the westerly part of said toun and that to the number of thirty five in s[d] westerly parish might Remain to the old parish, and also thirty five of the old parish might go to the New parish, and that Before the s[d] Vote of the General Court was reduced to an act the Secretarys House was consumed by fire the s[d] Vote among other papers was Burnt at which grant to our neighbours by your Excell. & Hon[rs] your answerers was fully satisfied and contented, But it hath so hapned since the Destruction of s[d] papers that their is a party in the old parish friends to the Rev[d] M[r] M[c]Gregore that has removed the publick worship of God from the Westerly meeting House Contrary to your Excell. & Hon[rs] orders and have Built another meeting house within a mil and a half to the old meeting House which we conceive will tend more to the fomenting of our present Debets and the destroying of Religion than any thing Ells, and have used all means & methods to tear our toun into peaces and also they have tray'd all meathods to destroy our meathod in Rising our ministers Sallary in the old meeting house which meathod was to Rise the ministers Sallary upon the pews or seats in s[d] House they still crying out that such a meathod was unjust and also contrary to the Laws of s[d] province till this present year that they obliged the Town to pass a vote to Rise s[d] Sallary by the poles and estats of s[d] Toun agreeable to the Laws and Custom of this Province. That a number of the Inhabitants of s[d] toun have Petitioned this

Honorable Court (this present sessions) for a new parish in s[d] toun. Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray that if their be any new parish in s[d] town it may be agreeable to the line agreed upon in the s[d] town and agreeable to the vote of the General Court, Namely that the meeting House be where it was first Built in the westerly part and that thirty five may go from the westerly part to the old parish and as many from the old parish to the westerly parish, and that the taxes already assessed in s[d] town for this year past may be pay'd as assessed by s[d] town.

Feb. 11th 1739-40.

ANDREW TODD
HUGH WILSON
MOSES BARNETT
} Selectmen for London-Derry.

Oct. 1739

Votes relating to the places of public worship, &c.

Prov. of N. H. } At a meeting of the proprietors freeholders & Inhabitants of Londonderry held at the old meeting House Oct. the 6th 1739.

The Seventh article in the foregoing Warrant Being Read & considered by s[d] Inhabitants It is Voted and agreed upon that the most westerly meeting House in the westerly side of s[d] Toun shall be the place of publick Worship for that Parish when set off by authority and laws of s[d] province

A true copy taken out of the second Book of Records for Londonderry the 9th day of Febr 1739-40

Attest p. Jo[n] Wallace town Clerk.

It is also voted & agreed upon at the afore s[d] meeting by s[d] Inhabitants that they will pay their Suppliers or Preachers of the Gospel in the old meeting House according to the Law and Custom of s[d] province

A true Copy attest p. Jo[n] Wallace, Town Clerk.

At a Toun meeting held at L: Derry Decbr y[e] 5th 1735.

Whereas at the aforesaid meeting after severall arguments and overtures made by the proprietors freeholders and Inhabitants where they wo'd have the aforesaid line made for a new precinct in the westerly side of this town in order to maintain a gospel ministry in that part of Londonderry the Moderator Desired all those that were Qualified to draw or form themselves up before the South side of the meeting house in two parties those that was for having a line Determined to be in one place and those that was not for having a line made to be in another place upon which those that was willing and contented to have a line Determined formed themselves together in order to be number'd and the town clerk, (viz) John M[c]Murphy Rekn'd or counted them one hundred and twenty for having a line determined for a new precinct, upon which the moderator desir'd all those that was not for s[d] line to form themselves also but they wo'd not and upon their refusall the moderator desir'd them to repair into the meeting House and either bring in written votes or to put themselves in form so as they might

be Reckn'd or counted, it was answered it was not worth while for that a great many was gone away and none spoke to the contrary, which line is voted as followeth that the Southerly line of our toun upon the westerly side of Beaver Brook shall be the line upon that side and from said line and by Beaver Brook upon the westerly side untill it come to the Road that leads towards ammasceegg begining near the old Saw mill upon the Southerly side of Will[m] Cockrons lott thence Runing as said Road as Highway leads to the foord way upon the Brook known by the name of the twelve acre Brook and from said foord way upon another line untill it come to Chester town line and from said Chester line to the Southerly line first mentioned.

A true copy taken out of the second book of Records for Londonderry

Attest pr. John Wallace, town clerk

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18 FEB. 1/10

Petition of 2[d] Congregation relating to Presbyterial authority, &c.

To the Honourable Richard Waldron Esq Secretary of His Majestys Council in New Hampshire.

The Humble Petition of Sundry the members of the 2[d] Congregation In Londonderry and Province aforesaid In behalf of themselves and others, Sheweth,

That those of your Petitioners who dwell In the Western side of the Town were disannexed as a distinct Parish by a Vote of the Town in a legal Town meeting In the year 1736. That those who dwell within y[e] Bounds of the old Parish were dismissed from said Parish by Presbyterial Authority all which we can make appear by authentick Records. That the place of worship where we now meet was agreed upon before our minister was ordained by a Great Majority of our Congreg[n] as we can make appear by a written agreement to that purpose. That we beg your Hon[r] would hear our agent Mr Reid upon this Head who can plainly demonstrate the necessity of our place of worships being fixed where it is. That the vigorous oppos[n] w[ch] has been made against us from time to time what ever specious pretences it may be cloathed withall proceeds from a rooted antipathy against our Minister or rather against his Father y[e] late Mr M Gregore whose memory is still dear to us and we think ought to be to our whole Town. That had we an opportunity of letting your Honor Into some passages of the Secret History of our Town we could make it manifest that this is no groundless inuendo. That the prayer of our petition now before his Excellency and Council if Granted cannot hurt the old congregation whatever clamour of this sort they may make they being still far more numerous and wealthy than we and their meeting house as well or better situated for the accomodation of their People. That we cannot help sus-

pecting that we have been Secretly Stigmatized as persons disaffected to his Excellencys Governm[t] by some who make lies their refuge. That if nothing be done for our relief at this Juncture we are affraid our minister will be obliged to leave us which will be exceeding heavy to us considering the great love we have to him and the Edification and comfort we enjoy under his administrations. That your Honours doing somewhat to extricate us from our present difficulties will lay such an oblig[n] to Gratitude upon us as will endear you to us more than ever which we shall be ready to make appear by our future conduct.

May it therefore Please your Hon[r] since we flee to you for Succour to use your Interest upon our behalf with his Excellency & the other honourable members of the Council That our Petition may be reconsidered and that somewhat may be done for our relief that may be looked upon as reasonable and Just and your Petit[rs] as In duty bound shall ever pray.

Signed at Londonderry, this 18th day of Feb. 1739–40 by

James Nesmith
Samuell Barr
James M[c]Keen
John Archibald
James Anderson
James Adams
George Duncan
John Blair
Sam. Gregg
James Cleark
Daniel Macduffee
Nathan Macfarland
Alexander M[c]Neill
James Reid
Matt. Reid

By appointment

In Council February 21st 1739-40

Upon reading the petition for a new parish in the Toun of Londonderry, Voted that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a bill for making a new Parish by the bounds mentioned in a vote of the said town dated X[ber] 1st 1735, with a saving to forty persons to go over to the new pish from the old and the like number from the old to the new, if there be so many on each side that desiers it Provided they make their request Known to the select men within two months from the date of the Act, and that what money shall be collected or has been collected from the Petitioners the curr[t] yeare for paying the Incumbent at the old meeting house shall be refunded or pay'd to the selectmen of the new Parrish that shall be chosen by Virtue of the act now to be made towards defraying the Charge and Sallary of the New parish.

Richard Waldron, Secry.

Eod[m] die. In the House of Representatives Read and Concurr'd with this amendment, Viz that it be said, the like number from the new to the old Instead of from the old to the new.

James Jeffrey. Cler. Ass[m]

In the House of Representatives Feb 23[d] 1739-40

The annexed Bill passed to be enacted.

James Jeffrey Clr Ass[m]

An act for erecting and Incorporating a New parish in the town of Londonderry in the province of New Hampshire.

Whereas sundry of the Inhabitants of the said town have petitioned the Generall Court setting forth that the number situation and other

circumstances of the inhabitants of the said town Rendered it necessary to have Two parishes there, That the Inhabitants at a Town meeting in the year 1735, Voted where a Dividing Line show'd Run in case this Court should see meet to allow and confirm it and praying that a New Parish might be incorporated with all the necessary and Common Powers and Authoritys of Law.

Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Governour Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same. that there shall be and Hereby is a New Parish made erected and Incorporated within the Township of Londonderry aforesaid by the following meets and Boundaries viz. the southerly line of said Town upon the westerly side of the Brook Called Beaver Brook shall be the line on that side and from said Line by Beavour Brook upon the westerly side untill it comes to the Road that leads Towards ammaskeag Beginning Near the old saw mill upon the southerly side of William Cochrans Home Lotts thence running as said Road or High way Leads to the fordway upon the brook Known by the Name of the twelve acre Brook and from said fordway upon a North Line until it comes to Chester Town Line and from said Chester line to the southerly line first mentioned Being the same dividing lines that were Voted by the inhabitants of the said Toun at a meeting there held on the first of December In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty five for the Boundaries of a New Parish—And all Poles and estates Living within and comprehended by the aforesaid Lines except as is herein after excepted shall be disannexed from and Exempted and discharged of and from paying towards the support of the ministry school or schools and all other parish charges of and in the other part of the Town or the old parish and are hereby erected and Incorporated into a New Parrish with full power and Authority to Raise Money on the said poles and Estates by way of Tax for the support of the ministry school or schools and all other charges of the Nature of parish charges within said Parish according to and in the way and manner by Law directed for Raising and defraying toun Charges within the Touns of this province.

Only excepting saving and Reserving a Liberty unto any number Not exceeding fourty of the persons living within the limits of the old parish aforesaid to go over unto and to Become members of the said New parish if they see cause and on the Contrary for any number not exceeding forty of the Persons Living within the Bounds of the said New Parrish to go over unto and become members of the said old parish if they see cause—And in order To determine who are or shall be the persons unto whom the said liberty is granted it is hereby ordered and Directed that those who Incline to exchange to belong to the parish in which they do not Live as aforesaid shall within the limits of two months from the publication of this act give in their Names to the selectmen of the town or old Parish for the time being signifying their desire of Exchanging Parishes as aforesaid and all such persons who shall give in their names not exceeding the number aforesaid on each side with their families and estates shall be parishioners of and belong unto the said Parishes respectively as they shall signify the same as aforesaid—And to prevent Disputes who shall be of the said Number in case more of both or either side should desire it, the same shall be determined by the order of entring the Names as aforesaid Beginning with the first on each side Read three times and passed in the House February 25th 1739-40

Andrew Wiggin Speaker
Richard Waldron Secretary

Assented to JONATHAN BELCHER

Petition for a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Govr and Commander In Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honble His Majestys Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Court convened.

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the South part of Londonderry in said Province, Humbly Shews,

That your Petitioners by the Situation of their estates and Places of residence in the said Town labour under considerable difficulties unknown to others not in their circumstances, more especially with respect to their Attendance on the public worship. The greater part of them or rather all of them except three living upwards of Seven miles from either of the meeting houses in the said Town, the inconveniences of which are self evident.

That the Inhabitants of the Parish in the said Town to which your Petitioners principally belong sensible of the difficulties attending your Petitioners in this regard have lately at a public meeting voted what should be the boundaries of a new parish if the Petitioners can obtain the authority of this court to incorporate them and that there will be no opposition (as your Petition^rs conceive) from any part of the said Town to the erecting a new parish by the boundaries voted as afores^d Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray this Honble Court to erect a New Parish in the said Town by the boundaries aforesaid which will Comprehend a tract of land of near six miles in length and four in breadth lying on the South side at the Easterly end of the said Town and Take in your Petitioners habitations & estates and that they may be invested with such legal powers and authorities as may be sufficient to answer the ends and purposes of such a precinct, and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Thom: Morrison
Halbert Morrison
Jno Dinsmore
Robt Hopkins
John Cochran
Alexand^r Dunlap
Jno Gilmore
Jam^s Dunlap
Robt Tompson
Jno Wilson
Jno McKye
Jos^h Waugh
Jno Stewart
Wm Bolton
Ja. Bolton
David Bolton
Wm Gregg
Henry Campbell
Wm Campble
Thos Cample
Hugh Grimes
Wm Eamerson Jr.
Jas Caswal, Jr.
Jno Murray
Arthur Grimes
Jam^s Bell
Sam McAdams
Jno Bolton
Thos Quigly
David Gregg
John Armstrong
Alexand^r Park, Jr
Alexand^r Park
Ezek^l Morrison

Robt Dinsmore
Saml Morrison
Wm Jameson
Jno Kyle
Ja: Gilmore
Robt Park
Ja^{s} Caswell
Jno Kyle, Jr
Saml Campble
Jam^{s} Campble
Nathl Hemphill
Saml Smith
Wm Waugh
Jno Gilmore
Jno Vance.

Jan. the 22st 1741. In the house of Representatives.

The within Petition read and Voted, That the Petitioners serve the Selectmen of the Town of Londonderry forthwith with a Copy of the Petition and the Votes thereon, that the said town of Londonderry may appear at the General assembly on thursday fortnight to shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the petition may not be granted, and if the General Court shall not then be sitting then to appear the third day of the sitting of the next session of General Assembly

James Jeffrey, Cler. Ass^{m}

In Coun. Jan. 27th 1741-2
Read and concurred.
Richd Waldron Secry.
Jan 27th 174-12.
Assented to, B. WENTWORTH.

The petition^{rs} having bro't a certificate from the Selectmen of Londonderry that excepting 3 or 4 persons they have nothing to object ag^{t} the prayer of the petition being granted, the House having considered thereon, Voted that the prayer of the Petition be granted (Excluding the persons & estates of John Archibald James Clark, James Moore John Hopdins & John Cockrane) that they be set off by the Bounds in the Petition and have all powers within themselves as other Towns have keeping & supporting an orthodox minister to preach amongst them & joyn with the Town of Londonderry and pay their proportion to him & all taxes allready made, and that they have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry Clr. Ass^{m}

In Council Feb. 10: 1741-2
Read & concurrd,
Richd Waldron, Secry
Feb. 10th 1741-2
Assented to B. WENTWORTH.

[In the original is a plan of the said Parish. ED.]

The Bounds of the Town of Londonderry as run out p me are as follows (viz), Beginning at a Beach Tree the south East Corner of Chester & from thence it runs South four miles & one half mile to a Read Oak spotted on four sides & marked L. D. for Londonderry & Sundry other Letters, then it runs West one mile & three Quarters of one mile to an Oak stake standing three rodds & one half rod to the North of a Bunch of maples Standing in a hollow & spotted & marked as aforesaid then it runs south six miles & one half mile to a Pitch Pine tree standing about 25 rods to the South of hally hack meadow marked as the first, then nine miles & half west North west to a Pitch Pine standing ninety two rods over a Brook marked as aforesaid, Then North Eleven miles & one half mile to a Pitch Pine marked as aforesaid then north north east three miles to a Red Oak marked as aforesaid then E. S. E. one mile to a White Ash tree standing in a run of Water that runs into a Pond, then strait to Chester Corner it being three Pitch

Pines marked by a former committee & well spotted & marked with the letters L. D. then East South East ten miles & fifty five rods to the Beach Tree first mentioned.

Dated at New market April ye 12th 1742.

Walter Bryant.

rec^d into the Secry Office 15th April 1742.
Attest Theod^r Atkinson
Copy P. Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition of Samuel Barr.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honble his Maj^ties Council for said Province.

Samuel Barr of Londonderry in said Province of New hampshire for himself and in the name and behalf of the Proprietors of the said Town of Londondery Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioners for several years past has been verry greatly disturbed and troubled and incroach'd upon in their Possessions, & in defence of the same has Expended from time to time in the Law near two thousand Pounds against the Inhabitants of the Massachusets Bay and tho' some of those persons that formerly made Incroachments upon the Said Town of Londonderry, By the late settlement of the Line fall within the Province of New Hampshire, yet still they continue to Incroach upon s^d Town and carry off the smal part of Timber that is yet growing there and other disturbances There on pretence that the Bounds of said Town was never yet Run out and assertained.

Wherefore, for assertaining the Bounds and limits of the said Town and to prevent any further disputes or unesieness about the Limits thereof, your Petitioners most humbly Prayes your Excellencie & the Honble the Council to appoint a Proper Person as surveyor and Chaine men under oath to run and perambulate the lines of said Town according to the Charter on the east, south and west sides, and home to Chester Bounds, (the Bounds between Chester and Londonderry having been perambulated by consent of both Towns Several times already) or otherwise as to your Excell^y and Hon^rs shall seem meet.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &^c

Feb. 25th 1741–2.

Samuell Barr.

In Council Feb. 26, 1741–2

The within Petition of Saml Barr in behalf of the Proprietors of London Derry read and voted thereon that a Surveyor and Chainmen be appointed and sworn to perambulate and renew the bounds of the

said Township according to the lines mentioned in their charter and that the Surveyor make a plan of the same and return to his Excellency the Goveruour to be lodged in the Secretarys office and that the same be done as soon as may be with conveniency and His Excellency is desired to appoint the Surveyor and chainmen And that the Petitioners defray the expence and also notify the selectmen of Kingston & Chester six days before the busyness is entered upon.

Rich[d] Waldron, Secry.

Petition for division of land, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov. Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England to the Honourable his Majesties Council and Honourable house of Representatives in General assembly Convened,

The humble petition of the Subscribers, Sheweth,

That there is a third Division of Land lying in the township of Londonderry in this Province which Belongs to the Heir of the Rev[rd] Mr Thomas Thomson Deceased and to y[r] Petition[rs], Mathew Taylor, John Archibald and James Reid. That the said third division of Land never was Sub divided between the foresaid parties.

That y[e] Petitioners Matthew Taylor &[c] are under an Indispensible necessity of selling their share of the same Land in order to defray an incumbent debt they Laid themselves under an obligation to pay at their Purchassing the same.

May it therefore Please y[r] Excellency and Hon[rs] to take our Petition under your Consideration and acording to y[r] Wonted Justice make such provision for y[e] Petitioners as that the said third Division or any other division of Land that may be laid out in Common between the foresaid Heir and y[r] Petitioners for time coming may be divided So as each party may dispose of their own share as need may be and y[r] Petitioners as in duty Bound shal ever pray.

Mathew Taylor
John Archibald
James Reid

We the Subscribers do consent to the pray[r] of y[e] foregoing Petition & its agreed by Both Parties That James Rodgers, John Wallace, & Tho[s] Coughran be appointed to Divide s[d] Land if the Pray[r] of s[d] Petition be granted. Given under our hands att Londonderry this 18th day of January 1741.

Will[m] Davidson,
Frances Davidson.

Jan the 27th 1741. In the house of Representatives.

The within Petition Read, and voted that the Petitioners serve the Executors or admrs of the Late Reverend M Thomson, with a coppy of the Petition and votes thereon, that they may appeare at the Genll Assembly as soon as Possible (& bring a coppy of the said Mr Thomsons will or letters of administration), and to shew cause (if any they have) why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted, and if they cannot appeare while assembly is now sitting, then to appeare the 3d day of the siting of the next sessions of Genl Assembly.

James Jeffrey Clr. Assm

In Coun Jan 27, 1741–2
Read and concurr'd
Richd Waldron, Secry.

Jan 27, 1741–2 Assented to.

B. Wentworth.

In the House of Representatives March the 12th 1741–2. Upon Reconsidering the above vote of the House of the 27th Jan. last past, Voted that the Petitioners Serve the Exor or Admrs of the Late Reverend Mr Thomson (Late of Londonderry Cler Deceased) with a coppy of the Petition and the order of the Genl Assembly thereon to notifie the said Exrs or admrs afforesaid to appear at the Genll assembly next thursday at ten of the clock in the forenoon, to shew cause (if any he or they have) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted, & if the Genll Assm shall not then be sitting then to appeare the 3d day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly next sessions.

James Jeffry
Cler. Assm

In the House of Representatives March the 10th 1741–2

The within petition Read, The Petitioner James Reed appear'd & Robert Boyce Esq admr to the Revd Mr. Tomsons Estate appeared the Parties heard & Voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted and that James Rodgers, John Wallace & Thomas Couchran be authorized & Impowered to make Division of the Land mentioned in the Petition: and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry Cler. Assm

In Council Eod. Die
Read and Concurr'd
R. Waldron, Secry.

Eodem Die Assented to

B. Wentworth.

Petition of inhabitants of old and new Parishes of Londonderry.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majtes province of New hampshire the Honourable his Majesties Councill for said Province and the house of Representatives in Generall Assembly Convened.

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitance of Londonderry in the province of New hampshire belonging to the old and new parishes humbly Sheweth.

That whereas in february in the year 1739-40 there was a

new parish sett off in this town by the Generall Court, Granting Liberty to fourty famelyes that lived within the Bounds of the said new parish still to Remain members of the old parish with their estates and at the same time granted Liberty that fourty famelys that lived within the Bounds of the old parish Should become members of the new parish With their estates if they saw cause.

Which accordingly was performed and that still their was some few famelys and single persons in Both parishes that was not contented because they were obliged to pay there parish Tax where they properly belonged and went to the contrary parish to the publick worship, and that whereas freedom and Liberty is most to be Desired especially in Religious affairs and whereas every christian ought chiefly to study those things That will be most for the advancement of the Redeemers Kingdom out of a consious consern for those persons that they might obtain their freedom and liberty as well as the Rest of the people of this town the Two parishes chose each of them a committee to see to accomodate that affair who is the Subscribers to this petition and was legaly chosen for Said End, and accordingly we meet and after some conversation about the affair we came to a mutuall agreement that all persons who had a mind to become members of the new parish should on a certain day then appointed meet the two committees and sign their names to said agreement which is two tedious here to Insert and those that had a mind to become members of the old parish had the same liberty and accordingly at the Day appointed the people came and signed their names only their is a saving clause in said agreement that we did not Intend any Infringment on the Court Act Relating to the fourty famelys belonging to each parish; Wherefore your petitioners humbly prays your Excellency the Honourable the Councill and house of Representatives that you would be pleased to pass an act to establish this our agreement, & that those persons, with their estates who hath already signed their names with us may become members of the old and new parish as they have signed, and that you would be pleased to Incorporate the new parish into a town & have priveledges as other towns except it be about highway work and taking the Invoice for the payment of the publick tax. Likewise that you would be pleased to explain the former act Relating to the fourty famelys that is to say whither on the sale of any of those fourty estates the purchaser shall be obliged to pay his parish tax where the estate was signed unto, or whither he may be at his Liberty to go to the other parish if he sees good. Also that all trangent persons who shall come to sojourn in this town shall have liberty to sign there names in three months after there arrivall with

the Selectmen of the parish where they design to Belong and shall be oblidged to pay there taxes there and your petitioners as in Duty bound ever shall pray.

James Gregg	Hugh Millson	Committee
Moses Barnett	Robt Cochran	
James Nesmith	James Clark	
Thomas Willson	James Aiken	
Samuell Barr	Archibald McCormick	
Jon Wallace	James Taggart	

In the House of Representatives 9br the first 1741. The within Petition Read and parties heard, and Voted that the Prayer of the Petition be so far Granted as concerns the signers mentioned in the agreemt mentioned in the Petition and that the new Parish be made a perticular Precinct by the name of —— ——— and yt they have the prevelidges as other towns or Parishes have by the Laws of this Province excepting the choice of assembly man which shall be chosen as formerly By the whole Town, and as to the forty familys formerly Polled off in either new or old pish, that their persons or estates stand as they are and likewise their successors in the several estates either by Descent or purchase to Remaine the same having signd according as the Petition mentioned and as to any new Comers that is Tradesmen or ministers &c that Shall Signifie to the clerk of the Town within 3 months after they come there to live, where they will belong, and that all children & Servants when they become Rateable shall pay where their parents or Masters pay, and that the Petitionrs have liberty to Bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffrey Cler. Assm

In Coun. March 13th 1741-2
Read and Concurred.
R. Waldron
Same day Assented to,
B. Wentworth.

Petition of selectmen respecting Parish bounds.

To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majts Province of New Hampshire and to the Honble his Majts Council of said Province.

The Humble Petition of the select men of the town of Londonderry in the province aforesaid most Humbly sheweth,

That your petitioners Laying upon or near to the boundery line of the province and so a grait part of our town always disputed in the Law by which your petitioners yet labors in enumerable difiquelty which is attended with large expence and yet some of the desturbers of our peace and not our peace only but of the peace of other towns and also of the province itself, have as we understand petitioned for a part of our town on the East part of our town to be annexed to a new parish or town of there own forming by which if granted would in a measuer destroy our old parish and cut a grait many mens estates to pieces.

May it therefor pleas your Excelency and Honors to take our case into your consideration and not to brake in on our town in any ways which if don will render our town for ever miserable and your petitioners as in duty bound shal ever pray.

Deatted at Londonderry,
February ye 10th 1746-7

HUGH WILLSON
ADAM CLENDININ
THO^S^ HORNER
} Select men

Petition to be Taxed in Nottingham-West.

Province of New Hamp^r^ } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour &^c^ The Honble his Majestys Councill & House of Representatives in Gen^ll^ Assembly convened, Jan. 1754.

The petition of Sundry Inhabitants now within the lines of Londonderry whose names are entered on the Back hereof most humbly shews,

That whereas by the unhappiness of the line formerly not being Known and agreed to by this and the Massachusetts Province the grant of Dunstable and Londonderry Interfered, by which means wee and the chief part of our Lands fall within Londonderry

That when we began our settlements there, we was part of the town of Nottingham, and considered as such both as to Duty & Priviledge.

That by the late Incorporation of the lands adjoining to Londonderry we were not considered in their Resettlement and Building their meeting house^n^ Neither is the settlement of either of the meeting housen in Londonderry which are sett on the Northeasterly part of that town ten miles from the greatest part of us from some of us eleven and that none of us live within nine miles the Road we pass to the nearest of their meeting housen.

That upon our application to this Honble Assembly sometime since we obtained the favour to be Dismissed from the Taxes Londonderry had then assessed us and in the future till the further order of this assembly.

That altho Nottingham and Litchfield meeting housen are under their last Regulation sett about three miles nearer than Londonderry yet the travill is so far that it is very difficult for us to attend their great part of the year, yett Nottingham has been the place wee have attended the ministry when the season was such we could travill.

That the distance we are from Londonderry renders it Impracticable for us and our familys to attend there on Lords days and their Known numbers and Riches leaves no room for pretending to need us to support that charge.

Nottingham has hitherto favoured us with Liberty to meet with them and are still willing without our being taxed to the support of their minister.

That we shall chearfully amongst our selves in the Winter season hire as much as our abilities will admit till we may by some future opportunity be Better accomodated.

Wee justly expect and are Willing to pay to the support of Government (an Invaluable priviledge) what our Equitable part is & shall be. That ever since we have been settled, have & still do keep and maintain Good Hyways thro all that part we claim where they have been found of convenience & are Willing to continue so to do:

Wherefore we Humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours would be pleased to take these premises into your consideration & to grant that wee may be altogether freed and not subjected to any Tax or assessment in Londonderry, and that wee may be so far sett of and annexed to Nottingham west as to be taxed with them to the province charges; and as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Ebenezer Spalding
Isaac Page
Joseph Kidder
Richard Marshall
George Burroughs
Ezekiel Chase
Gorge Burroughs Jr
John Marshall, Jr
Millen ? Hills
William Butterfield
Ezekiel Page
Leonard Cumings
Stephen Spaulding
Joseph Kidder
John Kidder
Thomas Mash
William Hill
Samson Kider
Noah Kidder
Benjamin Melven
James Barret
Moses Barret
Reuben Spalding
Moses Lowell
Nathaniel Hills
David Lawrence
Stephen Lowell.

Prov. New Hamps
In Council Jan. 9th 1754, read &
Ordered to be sent Down to the Honble House of Representatives.
Theodore Atkinson, Secry

Province of New Hamp } In the house of Represeniatives January the 9th 1754.

Upon reading the within Petition Voted that the Petitioners be heard on the within Petition on the third Day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the 1st day of March next & that the Petitioners at their own cost serve the select men of Londonderry with a Copy of this Petition & of the order thereon that they may shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the petition should not be granted

Matthew Livermore,
Clerk.

Province of New Hamp } In the house of Representatives March 28, 1754.
Voted that the Petition herewith annexed be dismiss'd.
Matthew Livermore, Clerk.

Counter petition.

To his Excell^{y} Benning Wentworth Esq Govr & Comander in Chief In & over his Majestys Prov of New Hamp. and to the honourable his Majestys Counsel & house of Rep^{ves} in Genl Court assembled March the 27th 1754.

The humble Petition of the Town of Londonderry of the said Prov. Sheweth,

That having been lately served by order of Assembly with the copy of a petition Subscribed by a number of people living at present upon some of our Lands in the Southwestern part of the Town, wherein they request to be disannexed from Londonderry, we crave leave to represent as follows: That were we before a court whose Business it is to Judge of the Right of the soyl we might say that as the land upon which the Petitioners is settled did upon the determination of the Boundary Line between the provinces fall within the province of New Hamp. it thereby plainly appears that the assembly of the massach^{tts} had never any power to grant it that therefore their pretending to hold by Dunstable gives them no just Title to the Land. That had the Mass^{tts} obtained all that they desir'd of his Majesty, viz. a curve line the case of the petitioners with respect to Title would have been the same all of them living above three miles distant from the River. That the far greater part if not the whole of the Petitioners have settled since the Determination of the line and some of them very lately. But as it may be perhaps said that these things are not a proper Subject to be laid before the honorable assembly we insist not on them but proceed farther to say, That the Town of Windham a part of Londonderry is so much weakened by a considerable number of the Inhabitants being freed from any obligation to support the Gospel ministry there that the remaining part was left too weak to support the said charge, in consequence whereof their minister has been obliged to leave them and they are at present destitute of the principal outward means of Grace without any rational prospect of its being soon otherwise.

That the western parish of Londonderry is already considerably weakened by the Incorporation of Derryfield that should another large part be taken off on the South western side especially if that is done with a view and as a step towards a yet

farther Incroach[t] the Conseq[s] is like to be soon the same with the Western Parish as that with Windham above mentioned.

That the thing the petitioners ask of this honorable assembly, viz. to be disannexed from Londonderry without being incorporated either as a Town or Parish is (as far as we know) without example in the Prov[ce] and it is left to the reasonable consideration of this wise assembly whether (if granted) it might not prove a bad precident. That as the petitioners Locality which renders their distance from both our places of publick worship considerable is the only Plea enforcing their Petition w[ch] has any appear[ce] of weight So even in that Respect we humbly appreh[d] they have no reason to complain since they have not been nor are like to be at any charge either in Building a meeting house or supporting a min[r] with us.

May it therefore please your Excell[y] and Hon[rs] to take the Premises under your wise and Impartial Consideration and at least to delay the granting of said petition till the circums. of the Petit[r] be so far altered as to give them some Just Reason of complaint and your Pet[rs] shall ever pray.

Signed In our Name and at our App[r] at Londonderry this 26th day of March, 1754, by

SAMUEL BARR
JOHN HUMPHRY } Selectmen
SAM[ll] ALISON

Petition relating to a military company.

Province of New Hampshier } To his Excellency Benin Wentworth Esq. Captain Genarall and Governor In Chief In and over his Majestys Provence of New Hampshire

The humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of West part Londonderry In said Province.

Your Petitioners Mos humbly Sheweth that we have for severall years past Intende to Rais a new Compeny In this Remot Pairt of this town if your Excellency will Gratify us so fare for the Rasons following to wit: that the nearest of us lives more than four and some five, six, & Seven mills from the comon Place of Peraid which is a great fetague to your Petishioners and besides severall of your Petitioners did formerly Belong to Capt Gregg Compeny of which William Blair is Insign whos name is famos all over the contrey for his managment with Jotham Odihorn Esq Leet of Portsmouth Deseased, and notwithstanding of the aforesaid villeny the said Blair was Permited to cary the collors last training day In the

aforesaid Greggs Company soon after your Petishioners meet together and drew this Petishon and chous for our ofesers the following persons to wit, Mr Thomas Wallace for our Captain, Mr Joseph Senter for our Leftenant, and Mr James Airs for Insign.

Therefore your Petishonars Most humbly prays that your Excelency would be Pleased to Grant us Comishons to the aforsaid Mishors Wallace Senter and Hers in the aforesaid station and Set us of as a new company and we as Loyall subjects shall Indeavour to serve our King and Contrey to the outmost of our power and your Petishoners as in Duty bound shall ever pray. Subscribed at Londondery August the 20th 1754

William White
Joseph Willson
William Willson
William Houston
Joseph Willison
Moses Senter
Benja Willson
Thomas Joans
Rubuan Senter
Stephen Spalden
Patrick Clark
Jon. Stewart
James M Cormack
William Gallt
William Stalender
William Dickey
John Thompson
Elise Dickey
David Houston
John Clark
Jon Senter
Samuel Thomson
Andrew Thomson
Charles Melen
David M Calester
James M Calester
William M Calester
Jon Craige
James M Keen
Samuel M Keen
Samuel Senter
Charles M Cay
James Anderson
Edward Aiken
Samuel Dickey
Jonathan Aiken
James Tagert
George Adeson
William Anderson
James Anderson
William Mack
William Ayers
John Mack
Ase Stephens
William Alexander

Thanks to the Legislature for an Act relating to taverns.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives.

We the Subscribers Free Holders & Inhabitants in Londonderry & Province afore said Humbly beg leave to Return our sincere & Hearty Thanks for the Late Gracious Act in which it is Stipulated that Londonderry aforesaid shall have no more Than three Taverns & Two Retailers for the present and four ensuing years & we had rather the number was diminished than Increased.

Londonderry Septr 26th Annoque Domini 1758.

Matthew Thornton
William Wallace
William Cox
Charles Cox
John McArtney
William Cochran
John Cochran
Petter Cochran
Robert Cochran
Vincan Cochran
Jon Wallace
Nathaniel Aiken
Hug. Young
Randel Alexander
James Anderson
David Anderson
Samuel Moore
Alex^{r} McNutt
Thomas Grierr
John Durham
Robert Moore
John Hopkin
Thomas Wilson
James Willson
James Willson
Mo^{s} Barnett
James Aiken
Samuell Miller
John Barnett
Robart Barnett
Samuel Allison
Sam^{ll} Allison Jr
David Steel
Thomas Creage
David Craige
Samuel Morrison
Mathew Taylor
John Hogg
John Mitchel
Samuel Rankin
James Paul
Willm Rankin
John Steel
Samuel Steel
Jno Wiear
John McKeen
Ephraim Marsh
James Thomson
Hugh Thomson
William Humphre
William Orr
John Moor
Hugh Mungomery
David Mountgomery
Robert Morrison
Robert Macmurphy
Sam^{ll} Houston
James Houston
Daniel Leslie
Robert Patterson
Willm Eayrs
John Moor
Robert Moor
James Caldwell
Patrick Douglass
Alex^{r} Renken
Daniel McDuffie
Robert Adams
Ja^{s} McGregore
John Taylor
William Taylor

Petition of Inhabitants of Londonderry, 1759, for discontinuance of a highway.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Captain General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Conven'd.

The Humble Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of Londonderry & Province afores^{d} Humbly Shews,

That in or about the year 1746 the Selectmen of Londonderry afore s^{d} Laid out a Highway Lengthways thro the land belonging to one Joseph Boyes of the Town & Province aforesaid which Lands is the farm on which the said Boyes then did & now dwells which Highway is within eight or nine rods of

the Line of said Farm the whole or near the whole length, & In Octr 13th 1748, The selectmen of Londonderry afor's^{d} at the request of s^{d} Boyes Laid out a Highway on the same Tract of Land the whole Length of the afores^{d} line & the Highway Laid out on the line in all respects accommodates the Publick as well, & said Boyes much better then the first as may appear by the Plan of both herewith Exhibited & there is little or no work Dun on the first road.

Therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that the first Laid out Highway may be Disannulled; & the latter established or otherwise as in your great Wisdom you think best & your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Londonderry Octr 21st A D. 1759.

Samuel Barr.
John Cochran
William Duncam
Joseph Hogg
James Aiken
Thomas Hylands
John Reid
John Duncan
John Duncan
James Cochran
Neall Taggart
John Taggart
Joseph Cochran
Samuel Moore
John Aiken
Jon Wallace
Andr Todd
James Todd
Robert Logan
John Crombie, Jr
John Crombie
Robt Clark
Will. Clark
Tho. Willson
James Ramsey
Hugh Ramsey
John Ramsey
Samuel Fisher
James Anderson
Edward Akin
William Anderson
John Clarke
Nathaniel Aiken
James Aiken
James Steel
John Wallace
William Eayrs
James Eayers
John Wallace
Willm Ranken
Joseph Scobey
Willm Duncan
Samuel Renkin
Samll Willson
James Wallace
John Pinkertown
David Steel
Patrick Dugles
Thos. Barnett
John Holmes
Saml Miller
Ninian Cochran
Willm Rogers
Arthur Boyd
Robt McNeill
John Humphry
Samll Houston
Daniel McNeill
James Blair
Arthur Archibald
James Gillmor
Benjamin Wilson
James Adams
Robert Adams
James MacGregore
James Adams, Jr
Jonathan Adams
Mathew Reid
David Montgomery
John Moor
Willm Rogers
John Hylands
Moses Watt
James Nesmith
John Moor
William Moores
James Boyes
Samuel Boyes
Ebenezer Coston
Adam Dickey
John Dickey
Abram Morrison

John Morrison
William Make
George Duncan
John Duncan
John Barnett
Robert Barnett
John Barnett Jr.
James Rogers
John Bell
James Campbell
James Taggart
Thomas Taggart
Willm Wallace
Thomas Gregg
Samuell Gregg
John Patten
David Anderson
James Miltemoer
John MacClorg
Willm Miltemoer
Mehen Clark
Thos. Morison
Robt Clendinin
Samuel Steel
John Mitchel, Jr
Hugh Jemeson
Gabriel Barr
Jno Wiear
Thomas Wallace
James Wallace
James Doacke
John Doacke
Capt John Mitchel
John Mack
Robert Mack
Samuel Dickey
Adam Dickey
Edward Aiken
James Ewins
Robert Parkson
Samll Alison
Saml Alison, Jr
James Wilson
Robert Craig
Hugh Young
John Gregg
James Gregg

In Council Jan 10th 1760
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble House.
Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Jany 11th 1760. This petition being read, Ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly next after the first day of March next & that the petitioners at there own cost and charge cause James Murrow mentioned In said petition to be Served with a copy thereof, and this order of Court Likewise that they cause the substance of this petition & this order of court thereon to be advertised In the New Hampsr Gazette, three weeks successively, that the said Murrow or any other persons whome it may concern may appear & Shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted

A. Clarkson, Clerk

In Council Jan. 11th 1760.
Read & Concured.
Theod. Atkinson, Secry

Province of New Hampr } In the House of Representatives March 27th 1760.
The partys to the within Petition being fully heard thereon & it appearing a reasonable Request, therefore Voted That the prayer thereof be granted & that the said Boyes have leave to bring in a bill accordingly.

Peter Gilman speaker, Pro Tem

In Council Eodm Die,
Read & Concurred.
Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition for a Law regulating fishing.

To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire: The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Conven'd.

The petition of the Subscribers a committee chosen at a Legal Town meeting Holden in Londonderry & Province afore's^{d} & others Inhabitants of Neighbouring Towns Humbly Shews,

That the Petitioners apprehend the Publick Interest makes it necessary To make a Law to regulate the following Articles viz: First where as in Merrymac river in the Town of Derryfield & Province afore s^{d} there is certain rocks Known by the name of Amuskeeg Falls at which place every Spring there is great number of Salmon & Shad fish which we believe every Inhabitant in the Province afore s^{d} has an equal right to, But particular men Takes what they call possession of all the Convenient places to catch said fish & either by themselves or agents prevents all others from catching & those possession men sells at what prices & when & to whom they please which makes Disturbances & Disorders Too many to be here enumerated.

Secondly The rivers & Brooks That emtys into Merrymac river are so filled with Mills & Dams that the passage of the fish is Intirely obstructed & the Inhabitants especially the poorer sort greatly Injured.

Thirdly, Fishing every day with scenes in Merry-Mac river prevents the Increase & in time may Turn the corse of the fish from the river; wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray,

First That every Inhabitant in the Province afore s^{d} if they please to go to the above s^{d} falls may fish their Turn & enjoy their right peaceably.

Secondly, That every Impediment on any river or Brook as above s^{d} may be removed at the expence of the Builders of s^{d} Impediment so that the fish may have free corse to the heads of s^{d} rivers & Brooks.

Thirdly, That no persons be allowed to fish more than three days in the week with Sienes in Merrymac river within the Province afore s^{d} In case Massachusetts Bay makes the same Law or Otherwise In any or all the Above's^{d} Articles as in your Great Wisdom you Judge most for the Publick Good & your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray.

ANDr TODD
SAMUEL BARR
MATTHEW THORNTON
} Comittee

Londonderry December
22d A D. 1759.

Chester.

Ebenr Flagg
John Webster
Saml Emerson
Samuel Hills.

Bedford.

Francis Barnet
John Little
John Wallace
James Little
William Holms
William Barnett
Hugh Riddle
Matthew Little
John Quig
James Lyons
John McAllester
James Patterson
James Kennedy
Robert Walker
John Bell Jr
Samuel Patten.

Windham.

William Smiley
John Davidson } Selectmen
Joseph Park

In Council Jan. 10th 1760.
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
Theodore Atkinson Secry.

Province of New Hampshir } In the house of Representatives, Jan 11th 1760. Ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon the second day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly next after the first Day of March next & that they cause the Substance of this petition & this order of court to be advertised In the New Hampsr Gazette three weeks successively that those persons whom it may Concern may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Grant'd

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Jan. 11, 1760.
read & Concurrd.
Theod. Atkinson, Secry.

Province of New Hampshire } In the house of Representatives May 16th 1760 This petition being read the parties appeared by themselves & their attorneys & after being fully heard thereon, Resolved, That the prayer thereof be so far granted as that no person shall be on the rocks at Ammuskeege fall from Sunsett Saturday evening untill Monday next at noon—one evidence to convict them before a justice of peace & his determination to be final that all obstructions on the rivers & brooks therein mentioned be so far Removed that the fish may have free course to the heads thereof that no sceins be used In said River only on Monday, Wednesday & Fryday, & further Resolved that no manner of Acts or Instruments shall be used to distroy take or stop any of the young Salmon or Shad In said Rivers or Brooks on the penaltys in a bill for that purpose to be prepared by the petitioners accordingly

A. Clarkson, clerk

In Council, Eodm Die,
read & Concurrd
Theod. Atkinson, Secry.

Petition relating to fish in Merrimack river.

Province of New Hamp. } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor &c And to the Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives for said Province.

The petition of us the Subscribers being Inhabitants of Londonderry, Chester, Derryfield, Bedford, Goffestown, Starkstown, Pembrook, Pennykook &c who are commonly supplyed with Fish catched at the Falls in Merrimack River Most Humbly sheweth

That whereas there hath been a Petition prefer'd to this Honourable Court to Restrain the fishing at the Falls in said River three days in each week as the fishing with Seanes is Restrained by an act lately passed In Answer to said petition we pray that the fishing at the Falls in said River may not be restrained in any measure but that the same may remain free as it hath been hitherto, we being of opinion that the fishing with scoop or dip nets does not in any measure hurt or hinder the Increase of fish so but that they may be always plenty as they have ever been untill the fishing with Seanes as long Experience Sufficiently Evidences for the fish in said River were always observed to Decrease as the number of seanes Increased and provided nothing might be suffered to hinder or destroy the Fry or young-fish coming down the River Provided also that the catching Salmon from and after the first of July to the end of the year were wholy stoped and that two or more persons be chosen and Sworn in each town joyning on the River annually to see that the Laws Relating to fishing be duly observed not only within the towns where they are chose Respectively but any where on said River and the lesser Rivers that Run into the same—Wherefore your petitioners pray that their said fishing at the Falls may not be Restrained and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

July 13th 1764.

Ebenezer Coston	Robert Walker
Thomas Wallace	Francis Barnet
his	Ebenezer Johnson
Matthew X McDuffee	Jas Caldwell
mark	Math Little
William Whites Jr	John Moor
John Clagston	John Moor Jr.
Robt McNight	James Aiken
John Kidder	David ?
William Holms	Mathw Patten
Joseph Houston	James Vose
Thomas Murrough	Joseph McCartney
James Patterson	William Barnet
John Dinsmoor	Richard McAllster
John Bell	Samll Richards

Benj. Smith
James Moore
William Nutt
Robert Gillmore
Ebenezer Hacket
Enoch Page
Daniel Moor
David Moor
Thos McLaughlin
Silas Walker
Benjamin Davis

William McDougall
Joseph Thomas
Robert Mack
Jno Little
his
Alexr X Orr
mark
James Smith
Nathanel Petterson
David McCleary
Joshua Martin

Pr Order,

JAMES CALDWELL.

Thomas Coffrin
Andrew Bunten
John Coffin
William Cochran
Samuel Galt
James Gay
James Cofrin Jr
Stephen Swett
John McDaniel
David McAllaster
Robert McDaniel
Willeam Merten
James Merten
James Mor
James Cochran Jr
James Cochran
Joseph Cochran
William Snow
Hubard Steand
James Lukes
Daniel Lukes
James Russ
Gain Hemphil
James Moor
Samuel Connor
Jacob Fowler
Timothy Knox
Thomas Welch
Starlen Sargent
John Clark
Benja Noyes
William Brown
Patrick Galt
Benjamin Ginkes
Samuel Smith
Isaac Whit
Nemiah Denel
Thomas Sanckler
Jacob Gay
Daniel Frezer
Daniel Knox
Joseph Brown
Samuel Mcfee
Samuel Brown

Asa Foster
Timo Clement
Isaac George
Archd McDuffie
Henry Stevens
Willm Robertson
Daniel Merten
James McCaley
John Stark
Samuel Stark
Alexander McCaley
Edward Bery
John Ray
Georg Whell
John Lenand
John Sinsclir
John Fife
James Fife
John Fife, Jr
Willm Fife
Ephraim Blunt
David Conner
James Man
Samuel Man
S. Jonathan
John McConnel
Thomas McConnal
William Moor
James Moor
Andrew McAlaster
James Hoobard
James Garven
John White
Abraham Merrel
Samuel Alexander
John Keneday
Robt Keneday
Thomas Merrel
John Merrel Jr
Thos. Robertson
Joseph Baker
Willm Robertson
Andw Robertson
Ebenezer Frie

Levi Carter
Joseph Baker Jr
John Moor
Joshua Tyler
Lovewel Baker
Thomas Baker
Steven McConell
Samuel McConell
Patrick Garven
John Moor Jr
Robert Moor
James Cunningham
Frances Dogan
Moses Conell
Willm Knox
Willm Man
Willm Moor
Daniel Moor
Francis McCay
Moses Garven
Samul Garven
John Garven
Bartholemy Stephans
John Man
John Man Jr
Thomas Kenady
Robert Kenady
Joseph Kenady
Joseph Kenady Jr
George Adeson
Samuel Kennady
Paul Burbeen
Samll Noyes
John McNeal
John Taggart
John McCurdy
Aron Wells
Mathw Flood
Jacob Caley
Jeremiah Brown
Daniel Merten
Asa Pudney
Joseph Pudney
David Pope
John Pudney
Benja Hedly
David Rowel
Daniel Macurdy
Moses Wells
Joseph Ordway
Elezer Wells
John Ardway
Job Rowel
Andrew Stone
John Millir
Samuel Rodgers
Mark Flood

Salvenis Emery
John Mearill
Caleb Emery
Hendre Pudne
Ebenezer Merten
Elezer Emerson
Francis Farr
Ephraim Foster
Joseph Rodgers
Antonie Emanuel
Randal Alexander
Robt Miler
James Macurdy
Willm Stark
Thomas Jemeson
Alexr Jemeson
John Copey ?
Alexr Walker
Job. Kider
Benj. Norris
Richd Bartlet
Asa Foster
Moses McConnal
Willm Folinton
Sia Alen
Moses Conner
Samuel Welch
Jonathan Merten
Elesr Alen
Punphret Whithous
Solomon Whithous
Daniel Eacens
Andrew Smith
Thomas Sinklir
Jeremiah Morgan
Charles McCoy
Francis McCuchran
Daved Conner
David Conner, Jr
John Coffran, Jr
Thomas Smith
Alexander McClintok
Hugh Crombie
John Heren
Jeames Horner
Daniel McNeal
William Pirham
William Pirham jun
Eleazer Robbins
John Pirham
Micheal McClinto
Nathanel Blasdell
John Sargent
Thomas Flagg
Moses Underhill
Hugh McAffee
David White

Samuel Aiken
William Aiken
James Aiken
David Watherspoones
Robert Craig
Robert McKinley
Thomas Dinsmoor
Andrew Crage
James Croset
Benjn Croset
Peter Aiken
William McClinto
Ephraim Robbins
Samuel Boyd
Ephraim Robbins
Adam Willson
Robert Calf
John Paton
William White
Moses Sergant
John Miles
Robt Paton
Jesse McFarland
John Brown
Joseph Calfe
Thomas Coburn
Nathaniel Boyd
John McClinto
Jonathan Chamberling, Jr
Jonathan Chamberling
Georg Person
Willm Hall
Alexander Watherspoon
Thomas Karr Jr
George Duncan
John Duncan
James Todd
Isack Bruster
James Donaldson
Josiah Duncan
Alexander Todd
James Rodgers
John Cate
Joseph Oughterson
Thomas Newman
Nathanel Heriman
James Campbell
Eleazer Coston
John Cochran
James Campbell Jr
Parich Richeson
John Bell
Caleb Dolton

John Rodgers
Samuel Bell
Robert M'Cluer
Robert Davison
Joseph Bell
Thomas Milar
James Peirs
James McGregore
Henry Blaisdell
Robert Moreson
James Aiken
Robert Moor
William Belley ?
Samuel Cochran
Robert Willson
William Moor
Robert Macmurphy
William Eayrs
John Oughterson
James Gregg
William Gregg
Benja Nesmith
Nathl Aiken
Robert Hunter
Joseph Gregg
William Boyd
Robert Rogers
John Willson
James Oughterson
Jonathan Merel
Abram Merel
James Miltmbr
David Mountgumery
Isack Cochran
John Craig
Robert Craig
John Senter
Moses Senter
James Gregg
John Thompson
Samuel Moor
Samuel Senter
David Anderson
David Campbell
Samuel Renkin
John Gregg
John Night
James Cochran
John Mack
William Anderson
Steven Coburn
Steven Jonston

Petition about irregular proceedings in town meeting.

To the honourable the Representatives of the province of New Hampshire in New England in General Assembly to be Conven'd May ye twenty Second A D. 1771

The humble petition of the Subscribers Freeholders of Londonderry and Windham of the province aforesaid Sheweth,

That your Petitioners are a Great part if not the Majority of the Qualified Voters of said Londonderry and Windham That your petitioners think they can make it evidently appear that in the choice of a Representative Last Tuesday they were Treated by the Moderator of said meeting and his abettors with manifest and Glaring partiality, that persons were admitted by the Governing Party in said Meeting to Vote who cou'^d^ or wou'^d^ Not Give suficient Evidence of their Being Qualified as the Law Directs, That altho' an express Law of the province Provides in case any dispute shou'd arise upon a written Vote a Poll if demanded shou'd be the final Decision and altho the Moderator did Promise that said poll should Take place in case it was Demanded and in consequence of said Promise a Number did forbear Voteing by a written vote as Thinking it wou'd Be soon enough when it came to the poll yet when a dispute did arise upon the determination by the written Vote though the Moderator was call'd upon imediately and Repeatedly by a great number of the members of the meeting agreeable to his promise and to the Law to Bring the matter to a final decision By poll yet he did in an arbitrary and dispotic manner Refuse the same.

May it therefore Please your honours to consider and enquire in to the case from wch we think it will evidently appear that the matter was not fairly carried and to Give order that Londonderry and Windham may have another meeting in order to have a fair choice and your Petitioners shall ever pray &^c^ &^c^

Sign^d^ at Londonderry May ye 16th 1771.

Jno Wiear	Jonathan Adams
Robert Hopkins	Samll Houston
James Adams	Willm Duncan
James Taggart	John Taylor
James McGregore	James MacMurphy
John Hunter	George Duncan, Jr
Daneal Hunter	Adam Taylor
John Aiken	James Paul
John Bell	John Hopkins
Thomas Taggart	John Nesmith
Robert Adams	Robt Hopkins
John Barnett	Saml Morison
James McKeen	William Thom
John Dinsmoor	Willm Cunningham
Robt McNeill	John Waddell
Thos Craige	William Dinsmoor

Robert Dinsmoor
John Cochran
James Cochran
John Tuft
James Jameson
Thomas Jameson
Isaac Cochran
Robert Park
Alexr Park
Jno Morison
James Hopkins
Jno Stewart
Charles Anis
Gain Armour
Andrew Armour
Joseph Smith
Robert Smith
James Galt
John Cochran Jr
John Wilson, Jr
Alexr Wilson
John Kile
William Gregg, Jr.
Willm Gregg
Hugh Graham
Hugh Graham jun.
James Anderson, Jr
John Clark
John Armstrong
John Armstrong, Jr
David Armstrong
Saml Wilson
Robert Hemphill
Nathl Hemphill
Nathl Hemphill jun.
George Gregg
Samuel Campbell
Samuel McAdams
Andrew Todd
Isaac Brewster
Thomas Smith
Hugh Smith
John Smith
John Campbell
James Adams
Nathl Aiken
David Campbell
John Montgomery
John Creeag
Robert Mack
James Gregg
John Woodburn
James Anderson
John Pinkerton
Archibd McMurphy
Robert Bird
James Campbell

Saml Graham
Saml Fisher
David Oughterson
Joseph Oughterson
James Anderson 3d
Wm Anderson
John Duncan 3d
Saml Anderson
Robt Anderson
Jno Anderson
Moses Graham
James Anderson
Saml Anderson Jr
John Clark
John Scobey
David Pinkerton
Robt Wallace
Daniel McAffee
Jona Gilmore
Robt Morrison
Robt Hunter
Robt Archibald
Robt McMurphy
Richd Duston
Jno Chase
Saml Eley
Saml Taylor
Wm Orr
Jno Carr
Robt McFerland
Benole Plumor
Danl Cheney
Abra Page
Stephen Johnson
Charles Sargent
Wm Taylor
Simeon Morrell
Davd Taylor
Alexandr Houston
Jno Wallace
Jno Boyd
Isaac Tucker
Robt Smith
Saml Rankin
Wm Rankin
Arthur Archibald
Davd Clandinin
James Wilson
Jno Hopkins, Jr
Saml Wilson, Jr
Geo Clark
Geo Wilson
Saml Clarke
Jno Caldwell
James Wilson, Jr
Wm Miltmer
James Nesmith tertius

Jno Annis
Robt Annis
Saml Marsh
Thos Clark
Matthew Clarke
David Anderson
James Miltemore
Benja Gregg
Jno Gregg
James Gregg, Jr
Isaac Cochran
Thos Anderson
Wm Boyd
James McCormick
David Paul
Jno McKene, Jr
Geo. Read
Jno McKene
Robt McKene
Jno Dunkin
Jno Dunkin, Jr
Robt Wilson
Joseph Bell
Jno Dickey
Matthew Dickey
Adam Dickay
James Donaldson
Robert Barnett
James Nesmith
Jno Barnett
Geo. Dunkin
James Nesmith, Jr
Jacob Chase
Hugh Moor
Joseph Ayers
Robt McClure
Tho. McClure
Timo Ayer
Wm Smith
Abra Dunkin
Jno Wiar
Robt Hopkins
James Adams, Jr
James Taggart
James McGregore
Jno Hunter
Jno Aiken
Jno Dinsmore
Jno Bell
Thos Taggart
Robt Adams
Jno Barnett
James McKene
Robt McNeal
Thos Craig
Jona Adams
Saml Houston
Wm Dunkin
Jno Taylor
James McMurphy
Geo Dunken Jr
Adam Taylor
James Paul
Jno Hopkins
Jno Nesmith
Robt Hopkins, Jr
Saml Morrison
Wm Thorn
Wm Cunningham
Jno Waddell
Wm Dinsmore
Robt Dinsmore
Jno Cochran
Jno Tuft
James Jameson
Thos Jameson
Isaac Cochran, Jr
Robt Park
Alexr Park
Jno Morrison
David Hopkins
Jno Stuart
Charles Annis
Andrew Armour
Gain Armor
Joseph Smith
Robt Smith, Jr
James Galt
John Cochran
John Wilson, Jr
Alexr Wilson
Jno Keille
Wm Gregg
Wm Gregg, Jr
Hugh Graham, Jr
Hugh Graham
James Anderson 3d
Jno Armstrong
Jno Armstrong, Jr.
Saml Wilson
Robert Hemphill
Nathl Hemphill
Nath Hemphill, Jr
George Gregg
Samuel Campbell
Saml McAdams

[Some of the above names appear to be repeated. Ed.]

Province of New Hampshire } December 13th 1771 In the house of Representatives Rockingham } upon reading the petition within written, Voted, that the petitioners at their own cost Serve the select men of Londonderry & Matthew Thornton Esq who was the moderator of the meeting therein mentioned with a copy of said petition and order of the house thereon by Reading the same to them Respectively or leaving a copy at their Respective dwelling houses or place of abode that they may be heard thereon to shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted, on thursday the 26th Day of December Instant at Portsmo aforesaid if the General assembly be then sitting & if not then on the third day of the Assembly next sitting after the said 26th of December.

William Parker, Clerk Assm

Jany 1, on the hearing dismist.

Petition of Londonderry West Parish.

To his Excelly John Wentworth Esq. Capt Genl and Govr in Chief in & over his Majestys province of New Hampshire, And to the honourable his Majestys Council and house of Representatives; In General Court assembled.

The humble memorial and Petition of the western Parish in Londonderry and Province afforesaid Sheweth

That in the year 1739 your petitioners obtained an Act of the Legislature of this province setting off by certain bounds therein specified a parish in the Western side of Londonderry. That a number of people in each Parish, unwilling to join with or be of the Parish in which they were situated and pleading Conscience & Liberty it was provided in said Act that fourty Familys within the eastern side of the Town should have Liberty to Incorporate with and be of the western parish, and that an equal number within the Bounds of the western Parish should have the same liberty. That by the means of these vicissitudes to which in a long space of Time humane Affairs are liable some of the exempted fourty Familys or their posterity have by the transferring of property come to be liable (as is alledged by some) to pay those ministers to whom they never stood in any special Relation whose ministry they cannot in conscience attend; and who have the very same Plea with the mentioned fourty Familys exempted in the parish act as above said, That altho your petitioners have never taken any advantage of the circumstances of such Persons as judging that to do so would be contrary to the Principle of Liberty on which the above mentioned exemption in the parish Act is founded; yet the Eastern Parish cannot say so; they have (especially of late) shewed a great avidity to avail themselves of such advantages. They have rated a considerable number and made distress upon some who always belonged to the Parish of your

Petitioners, some of those rated are of the exempted fourty Familys and have been born under the present Ministry insomuch that the Letter of the Parish Act is made use of by our Neighbours in such a sense as to destroy the true spirit and Intention of the said act, and also to rob people of the liberty granted in religios matters by a gratious King and by the laws of this province.

That there is often a wider difference between Presbyterians and Presbyterians than there is between Presbyterians and Congregationals or between Presbyterians and Episcopals as such—Two persons may both of them be nomenally Presbyterians and yet may differ in some of the most important Doctrines of Religion whereas Presbyterians and Congregationals or Presbyterians and Episcopals as such differ only in things of a comparatively lesser Nature. That if the Law provides for people in the latter of these Cases where the ground of dissent is Lesser, much more ought it to provide in the former case where the ground of dissent is greater.

That as the two congregations in Londonderry are nearly Equal: As the people of the two Societys are living promiscuous all over the Town: as the meeting houses are about equaly well situated for the accommodation of the Town in general And Finaly as the difference in religious matters between the two societys is of long standing and in the Judg^{t} of your petitioners wide and of great Importance, your petitioners are humbly of opinion that the Thing and the only Thing that will Establish Peace and good Neighbourhood between the two societys and prevent expensive Prosecutions in the Executive courts will be an act of Assembly appointing that every person in Londonderry should support the Gospel in that Congreg^{n} only where he constantly & conscienciously attends—such an act (your peti^{rs} are fully persuaded) as it is most equitable in it self so it will be the most likely means to calm the spirits of people many of whom are at present much exasperated by apprehended Imposition This will be the most likely to keep the two societys nearly upon a levell; And to conclude this will make every Individual in the Town a volunteer in the support of the Gospel

May it therefore please your Excelly & Hon^{rs} to take this weighty affair which so nearly concerns the peace and happiness of this large town under your wise and impartial Consideration: And under proper limitations to enact that every person shall be obliged to support the Gospel in that Congr^{n} only to which he conscientiously adheres: and where he ordinarily attends, and your peti^{rs} shall ever pray.

Signed at Lon^{ry} this 15th day of May 1773.

John Hunter
John McKeen
Sam^{ll} Fisher
James Paul
George Duncan Jr
James McGregore
Willm Duncan
} Committee

Province of New Hamp^{r} In the House of Representatives May 18th 1773, upon reading this petition, Voted that the petitioners Serve the selectmen or assessors of the first parish or as it is called in this petition the Eastern parish with a copy of this Petition in this manner: by reading the same to the majority & leaving the copy with one of them and that the parties may be heard thereon on the third day of the sitting of the general assembly after the 15th day of June either by prorogation or adjournment if either should happen in the mean time: sent up

William Parker, Cler.

In Council Eodem die
Read and concurr'd
Geo. King, D. Secry

Petition of Inhabitants of Londonderry, 1773.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq Capt General Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire & vice admiral of the same &^{c} The Honourable His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in general Assembly Convened.

The subscribers inhabitants in the East & West Parishes in Londonderry in s^{d} Province humbly shews, That in the year A. D. 1739, said Londonderry, by an act of the Legislature of s^{d} Province was divided into two grants called the East & west Parishes, with liberty for a number not exceeding forty Families in Each Parrish to Poll to the other the forty families in the east that Poll'd to the west by the assistance of those in the west that lived near the East line of said Parrish obtained a vote to Build & did build a meeting house for said Parrish near the east line thereof when s^{d} Parish then had a meeting house near the center newly Built & is now Rotten for want of use as the number of Inhabitants in the west Parrish increase the forty families in the East that Polled to the West multiply & now are near (if not above) seventy families & by the abovesaid assistance have from the time of passing s^{d} act to this day obliged all the rest of s^{d} West Parish to travil to the meeting house near the east line except a few days in great condescention they lately have had preaching in a third New meeting House Built by said West Parrish near the center which must suffer the fate of their first in case their minis-

ter continues to live near the center of the east Parrish & all that Proceed from the forty families in the east that Poll'd to the west be the number ever so great belong to & vote with the west Parrish as they yet have done which two causes in our opinion begun the flam of contention in Londonderry & as they have they will keep it alive while they continue when we are Distinct Parrishes without Pollers & not till then Londonderry may reasonably expect peace take the cause & the effect will cease: relative to a petition lately Exhibited to your Excellency & Honours by a committee from the West Parish & now under your consideration Shewing first the great difference between Presbyterians & Presbyterians: 2dly the promiscuous situation of the Parishioners of each Parrish. 3^{ly} the great difference in opinion between the people of the two Parrishes in the Important Doctrines of the Gospel. 4^{ly} that The meeting Houses are Equally well situated to accommodate the people of each Parrish; Finally praying for what they call by the name of liberty for each Individual to joine where he or they Please & pay where they joine.

We answer first as to the great differance between Presbyterians & Presbyterians, we take it to be a Theological Distinction when there is no difference; that there is a wide difference between Real & nominal Presbyterians we are very sensible & leave it to the Impartial which they will call the first.

Secondly that the Parishioners are Promiscuously situated is true which is owing to the forty pollers & their ofspring: 3^{d} if there is that great difference in opinion set forth in said petition between the People of the two parrishes respecting the Important doctrines of the Gospel it must be in the minds only or some private disputes between enthusiasticks unless they call disputes about the Irregular conduct of some members of Presbyterys Important Doctrines of the gospel.

4^{thly} If by the Meeting Houses in each Parrish being equally well situated to accommodate the inhabitants they mean the new meeting House in the East Parrish and the last built meeting House in the west it is true But if they mean the meeting house in the west Parrish near the east line where the Publick Worship now is & has been ever since they were a Parrish (Except as above excepted) we leave it to your Excellency & Honours how well the inhabitants of the west Parish are accommodated & what Justice is done them in General; Finally the Liberty prayed for in said petition if granted we humbly apprehend will be productive of greater evils than the Polling act Because in that case in all future time that Parrish which has the most Popular Preacher who is not the wisest man the best scholar nor the best christian will leave

the other Parish unable to support the Gospel & we dont desire to give or take such unjust advantage it is evident that every Individual of mankind in our present state & circumstances are not to be free in every respect, Because that would destroy the publick good. In all Bodys Politick Individuals give up part of their Liberty & Properties to the Publick to secure the remainder. In all societies Religious civil or Political Individuals are to enjoy private liberty & property as far as is consistant with the good of the community of which they are a part & no further, from which it is evident that whatsoever liberty one of any number desire or pray for inconsistant with the good of the community of which they are a part, should be refused

And as the prayer of their Petition is evidently calculated to destroy the future peace and good order of both the above s^{d} Parrishes in Londonderry, Therefore your Petitioners Humbly pray first that the prayers of said Petition may not be granted. 2dly that the present dividing line between the two Parrishes in said Londonderry may be examined by a committee appointed by your Excellency & honours and if Just, established & if not that s^{d} committee may fix it so as to doe Equal Justice to both Parrishes.

And that an act may be made that will oblige Every Individual Presbyterian in all future time to pay his proportion according to law of the Ministers Salary in the Parrish where he dwells & Joine & Worship where he or they please which we believe would produce peace & good agreement between the Inhabitants of both Parrishes in general or reduce the forty pollers to their primitive number & fix it so that they never shall exceed that number & impower the west Parish to meet for Publick worship where it will be most Just & Convenient for the Inhabitants of s^{d} Parish for the future the latter will better our circumstances, the first will cause our distructions.

But we humbly submit all to your Excellency & Honours & as in duty bound will ever pray &^{c}

Matthew Thornton
Samuel Anderson
Samuel Anderson Jr
James Eayrs
James Ramsey
James Ramsey
William Ramsey

Londonderry May 27, A D. 1773.

In Council Jan. 13, 1774.
Read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
Geo. King, D. Secry.

Agreement of Committees.

Whereas there is a Petition Exhibited to His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governour & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire &c The Honourable His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Conven'd signed by a committee appointed by the New parish in Londonderry in said Province praying for the Redress of Certain greevances mentioned in said petition, It is mutualy agreed Between s^d^ Committee & a committee from the old or first Parish in said Londonderry as follows, viz:

First that all the Rev'd Mr David M^c^Gregors Hearers that are rated by s^d^ old Parish shall be erased out of their list for the last tax & all former taxes not already paid.

2^ly^ That the ministers Salary (viz Eighty pounds Each pr annum) shall be raised on the whole Inhabitants of Both Parishes that are obliged by law to pay to either of s^d^ ministers by Pole & estate & each Parish shall Levie the money of their respective hearers by their own collectors.

3dly That this agreement shall continue between s^d^ parishes untill the death or incapacity of the Rev^d^ Mr David M'Gregore or the Rev^d^ Mr William Davidson or for the space of three years from this date.

Dated at Portsmouth, Jan. 15th A. D. 1774.

Signed pr

Matthew Thornton Samuel Barr Robt Clark	Committee for the old parish
James MacGregore George Duncan Jr Willm Duncan Samuel Fisher James Paul	Committee for the new parish

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LYME.

[Lyme was granted by charter, July 8, 1761. Settlements began in May, 1764, by emigrants from Connecticut. ED.]

Petition for a ferry.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire In Council.

The petition of Ebenezer Green of Thetford in the County

LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

of Gloucester in the Province of New York, humbly sheweth, That there never has been any ferry by law established across Connecticut River in Lime in the County of Grafton & that of necessity for the Benefit of Travellers and others, your petitioner has been at Considerable Cost and Trouble in providing Boats &c for the Benefit of Travel and that it will much serve the Publick to have a ferry established in said Lime at or near the place where your Petitioner has erected a House for the purpose of Calcining Potash, whereupon your petitioner humbly prays your Excellency to grant him the Privilege of a ferry at sd Place under usual Restrictions and Regulations and as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Ebenr Green.

Portsmouth May 27, 1772.

Petition for a half-shire Town.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire. The Honorable his majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd, Janry 1773.

The petition of the Inhabitants of the Towns of Lime & Orford in ye county of Grafton by their agents, Alexander Phelps & Israel Morey, humbly sheweth that the number of Families, living south of ye Town of Haverhill in ye County of Grafton are in proportion to the number living Northward of said Haverhill as fifteen to one all which except about twenty Families living in Piermont must pass through a corner of Orford in travelling to Haverhill, that no Inhabitant living Southerly of a direct line drawn from the northern most extent of Campton which is proposed to be annexed to said County to the Northemost extent of Orford can travel to Haverhill but by traveling eight miles further than to go to Orford or Lime; that much the greater part of them must travel thirty miles further to go to Haverhill than to Lyme and near twenty further than to go to Orford. That there are now in Lebanon the Southwestmost Town in said County at least fifteen Families more than inhabit in said County Northward of Haverhill, that the Increase of setlers southward of Haverhill has hitherto been and is still likely to be proportionably greater than the Increase of setlers North of said Haverhill as the present Inhabitants below are in Number greater than above. That from the southermost part of the County it is full fifty miles to Haverhill so that there can never be Room for a new County between Haverhill and the southward extent

of said County, that the northerly & Southerly extent of said county is not less than one Hundred & 40 miles which in regard of extent, is full long for two countys and thereupon your petitioners cannot but suppose s^d^ County will in future Time be divided into two Countys as soon as the northern part shall be sufficiently inhabited.

That your petitioners humbly conceive it cant be reasonable to alter the place of holding the Courts after it shall be once fixed y^t^ the expence of building Court house, Prison, county, Books &^c^ must principally be defray'd by the present inhabitants That the good of Dartmouth College which we doubt not is an object of your excellencys & honors concern will much depend on the publick Courts not being held at too great a distance

Whereupon your Petitioners humbly pray that your Excellency and Honors would be pleased in establishing the halfshire Town next Connecticutt River to take into consideration the Reasons and Facts abovementioned which they are ready to evince and enact that either the Town of Lime or the Town of Orford be the place where half the Courts of Records in s^d^ County of Grafton shall be held and as in Duty bound shall ever Pray.

ALEX PHELPS } Agents for
ISRAEL MOREY } Lime & Orford.

Portsmouth Jan. 15th 1773.

Province of New Hamps } In Council Jan. 20, 1773.

Read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.

Geo. King D. Secry.

LYNDEBOROUGH.

[Formerly Salem-Canada, was granted by Massachusetts and settled while under that Province. It was chartered by New Hampshire 23^d^ April 1764. ED.]

Petition for protection against Indians.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Province of New Hamp^r^

The petition of the Inhabitants of Salem-Canada in said Province, Humbly Shews

That your petitioners live in a place Greatly exposed to the Indians and have not men Sufficient for to Defend us, That tho'

there be but few of us yet we have laid out our estates to begin in this place So that we shall be extremely hurt if we must now move off for we have there by the Blessing of God on our labours a fine crop of corn on the ground and tho' we have a Garrison in the Toun Built by Order of Majr Lovell yet we have no body impowered so much as to set a watch among us nor men to keep it; we would therefore pray your Excellency that we may have some assistance from the Government in sending us some souldiers to Guard and Defend us as in your wisdom you shall think proper. Tho' we are but newly added to this Government yet we pray your Excellency not to disregard us but so to assist us that we may keep our estates and do service for the government hereafter & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Salem-Canada,
June 26th 1744.

John Cram, Jr
Joseph Cram
Samuell Leman
John Cram
David Stevenson
John Stevenson
John Dale
Jonathan Cram
Ephraim Putnam
Benjamin Cram
Abraham Leman

Grant of Salem-Canada, &c.

Province of New Hamp } Pursuant to the Power and Authority granted and vested in me the Subscriber by the propr's of Land purchased of John Tufton Mason Esq in the province of New Hampshire at their meeting Regularly called for that purpose,

I do by these presents on the terms and conditions with the reservations herein after Expressed give and grant all the Right title property and possessions of the Propr's afore'sd according to the following proportions of Interest (viz't) to Benjamin Lynds Esq. four shares Benjamin Pickman Esq three shares Rob't Hooper Esq. one share to the Heirs and Assigns of Joseph Sweat Esq. Six shares To Joseph Blaney Esq. two shares, Samuel Wells Esq. ten Shares, Daniel Epps, jun. Esq. two shares, Major Joshua Hicks two Shares, Benjamin Goodhue three shares, Thomas Fletcher two shares, Joseph Richardson two shares, George Goold two shares, Ephraim Ingalls two shares, and to the following persons viz't

Joseph Bowdage Esq
Stephen Pullman
Jonathan Bowers
Major John Towle
William Holt
Oliver Fletcher Esq
Mrs Hannah Cobbit
David Stinson
Robert Swan and
Josiah Bowers
the heirs of James Lendall Esq late deceased
John Bickford
Moses Graves
Timothy Cummings to
Joseph Clough
Daniel Nicholls
Jonathan Peal

to which Seventeen one Share each of in and to a tract of land in the Province of New Hampshire afore'sd containing by Estimation twenty eight Thousand Acres, part thereof Heretofore called Salem Canada

the whole tract Bounded as follows Begining at the Northeast Corner of a tract of land called Duxbury School Farm and in the line of that Tract or Township called Souhegun West, from thence runing West by the needle one mile two hundred and Eighty rods to the east line of a tract of land called Number two, from thence north by the needle four hundred and ninety eight Rods to the northeast corner of s^{d} No. two, from thence west by the needle by s^{d} N° 2 five miles to a white ash marked the corner of Petersborough Slip and of N° 2 and from thence west by the needle two hundred and Forty Rods by s^{d} Peterborough Slip to a Beach tree marked from thence north by the needle six miles & three quarters to a tree marked for the corner of s^{d} tract from thence East by the needle three miles and one quarter to a tree marked in the western line of New Boston from thence south by that line one mile and an half to the most South westerly corner of New Boston afore s^{d}, from thence east by s^{d} New Boston line three miles one Hundred and twenty rods to a Black Oak marked still by said New Boston line & run south two miles and an half To a Stump and stones, from thence East One mile and Eighty rods to the North west Corner of that tract called Souhegun west aforesd, from thence South by the line of said Souhegan west four miles one hundred and twenty three rods to the Bounds first mentioned, & to all the Bounds aforesd, lett either of the lines afores^{d} be more or less, which tract of Land or Township shall from this time be called Lynde Borough the Premises afores^{d} under the terms & conditions with the Reservation hereafter Express (that is to say) that the grantees afores^{d} according their respective shares excepting as hereafter excepted have twenty one thousand & thirty Acres part of the afore's^{d} twenty eight thousand acres as the whole of the grantees part of the premises in the following manner, viz that each of the grantees named in the Schedule hereunto annexed Own and Enjoy the severall and Respective lotts to their names Respectively affixed as part of their shares. That the following severall Lotts (and to be part of the grantees proportion afores^{d}) be granted as afores^{d} free from duty settlement or taxes in bringing forward or Compleating the duty as the conditions of this grant to the severall Persons hereafter named as follows, To David Badger the Lott N° 117, To Francis Densmore the Lott N° 106 To Bartholomew Jackson Lott N° 100, To John Shead the Lott N° 50, To Paul Raymond the Lott N° 99, Which Lotts contain by Estimation one Hundred and thirty acres each and is part of the second Division formerly laid out in s^{d} tract. To James Twadle, in the Right formerly Edward Fladre the home lot called 24 East, with an addition Round about it of sixty four acres to compleat the quantity of one hundred and thirty acres. To Deacon Nathaniel Pullman, Peter Martin & George Dealands Heirs to each one Lott to be lay'd out in the undivided lands which three lotts are to contain, One Hundred and thirty acres each and to Benjamin Lynde as assignee to John Dale sen^{r} the home lott N° 21, and One hundred and Twenty ——— acres to be layd out in the undivided lands which s^{d} persons in their capacity as above shall be Intitled to no further part of ye premises. That out of the grantees proportion there be three shares more granted One for the first settled minister and one for ministry, and one for the schole there forever which said shares shall be and contain the severall and respective lotts entered in the schedule hereunto annexed as their whole & respective Shares & shall be free of duty of settlement and all taxes in performing the Conditions of this grant.

To have and to hold to them their Heirs & assigns forever under the following conditions with ye Reservations here after mentioned, viz

That there be reserved out of said Tract, one Farm of Five Hundred acres at the South westerly Corner of said Tract and also One Hundred

and Fifty acres adjoining on that corner of ye Township that Bounds on New Boston West Line & One hundred and fifty acres as discribed on ye plan of said Tract

And that there be further reserv'd to and for ye use of ye grantees their Heirs and assigns Free of all charges & Incumbrance of settlement or taxes until improved by the owners or by them sold, Six thousand & six acres and laid out into nineteen Equal Shares at the charge of ye grantees in ye following manner, viz. That there be in ye next best accommodations of ye undivided Lands three Thousand six Hundred & sixty acres laid out for the grantees aforesaid for Quantity and Quality with ye Land already laid out in nineteen equal shares as aforesaid and that there shall be next laid out in ye said undivided lands, so much to each grantee who has not his full proportion, in ye Lands already laid out, and set in ye Schedule as shall make their respective shares equal with the rest.

And that the remaining part of the Land reserved for the grantors aforesaid, being two Thousand Four Hundred acres be Divided for Quantity and Quality with the rest of ye comon Lands into Nineteen Equal shares. And the remainder of ye comons or undivided Lands to be to and for the use of ye grantees as they shall order the Divisions thereof. And that where any lands was by the Proprietors claiming under the Massachusetts grant formerly left within any lott for Highways the Owners of such lott shall have said Land thus reserv'd allowing so much as shall be of equal Value out of his part in ye next division of ye comons.

That the respective Grantees, Owners of ye Fifty Shares afores^d^ and who are not excused from Duty and charge, bring forward and make settlement in the following manner viz. That they lay out ye s^d^ Tract or Township and compleat the Division thereof as afore directed at or before ye 20th Day of November next ensuing and return a plan thereof certified under the Hand of their clerk on oath within two months after such work shall be compleated to ye clerk of said grantors.

That ye respective Owners for each respective share make one settlement in the following manner viz. To clear inclose & fit for mowing or plowing Two acres on some one Lott and have a comfortable dwelling House built and fitted for comfortable dwelling in and a Family or some Person resident there at or before the first day of december, one thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty six and to continue Inhabitant or Resident there for Four years then next coming and also for the same four years annually on each of ye said Lotts, to have Two Acres clear'd Inclosed and fitted as aforesaid. That there be a Meeting House for Publick Worship in said Township within Five years from this Date at such place as shall be agreed on by the proprietors both grantors and grantees to be determined according to Interest and Ten acres reserved there for publick use notwithstanding such Lott should be laid out to any Particular person or persons. That the land in said Township belonging to grantors and grantees, be subjected to have all necessary Highways laid through them as there shall be occasion for the future without any pay or allowance for Damages that the aforesaid grantees their Heirs or assigns not heretofore excused from charge by a Major Vote in publick Meeting called for that purpose, Grant and assess in equal proportion such Sum or sums of money as they shall think necessary for carrying forward and compleating the settlement aforesaid or for the support of the ministry as the Proprietors shall agree to and every of the Grantees exclusive of three Publick Lotts or his assignee who shall neglect for the space of sixty days after such assessments shall be granted to pay the same, so much of such delinquents Rights shall and may be sold as will pay their respective Fines and all charges

arising thereon by a committee to be appointed by the grantees or their assignees for that purpose.

And in case any of the grantees or their assignees shall neglect or refuse to perform any of the Articles, Matters or things aforesaid by him respectively to be done He shall forfeit his Right in said Township and every part thereof, to those of the Grantees or their Imediate Assignees who shall have comply'd with the conditions on their Part herein Expressed and it shall and may be Lawfull for them or any person by their Authority to enter into & upon the Right or part of such Delinquent Owner, and any and every part in the Name and behalf of the whole of the Grantees or their Imediate Assignees, who shall comply as aforesaid to move oust and expell for the use of them their Heirs and assigns, provided they settle or cause to be settled each such delinquent Right within the Term of one year at the Farthest from the Periods that is by this Instrument Stipulated to be done as the condition of this grant, and fully comply with the whole Duty such delinquents ought to have done within One year from Time to Time after the respective Periods thereof, and in case the grantees or their Assignees fulfiling their parts as aforesaid shall neglect fullfiling as aforesaid the Duty of any delinquent Owner as aforesaid then such right or part shall be Forfeit revert and belong to the Grantees their Heirs and assigns to be wholly at their disposal, allways provided there be no Indian Warr with in any of ye terms aforesaid for doing the Duty conditioned in this grant, and in case that should happen the same Time to be allowed for the respective matters afores'd after such Impediment shall be removed. That all white pine Trees fit for Masting His Majesties Royal Navey growing on said Tract of Land be and hereby are granted to his Majesty, His heirs and successors forever. Lastly the said grantors do promise and engage to ye said grantees their Heirs and assigns to defend through the Law, to King & Council if need be one action that shall and may be brought against them or any Number of them by any person or persons whatever claiming the said Land or any part thereof by any other Title than that of the s^d^ grantors, or that by which they hold and derive theirs from provided the said grantors are avouched in to defend the same and that in case on Final Tryall the same shall be recovered, against the grantors that such person or persons shall recover nothing over against the grantors for the said Lands, Improvements or Expence, in bringing forward the settlement.

To all which Premises I Joseph Blanchard Agent for and in behalf of the Proprietors the grantors have hereunto set my Hand and seal this fifth day of December A D. 1753.

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

Signed, Sealed & DD
in presence of
Geo: Delond
Jno Bowles

The aforegoing pages contain a true coppy of the charter signed & Executed by Joseph Blanchard Esq as agent for & in behalf of the Proprietr^s^ of lands purchased of Jno Tufton Mason Esq in the province of New Hampshire delivered unto us the subscribers in behalf of the grantees mentioned in this charter. And Whereas we were by the afores^d^ grantees Authorized & Impowerd to Setle agree & compound concerning the premises in the afore written charter with the s^d^ Joseph Blanchard Esq in his capacity above mentioned on such terms & conditions & with such reservations as by both parties should be agreed & concluded—Now therefore we the s^d^ Comittee in the name & behalf

of the grantees mentioned in the afore written charter, hereby accept s[d] Title & for s[d] Grantees do acknowledge that we hold s[d] Lands under the s[d] grantor's Title & on the conditions & Limitations with the reservations express'd in said charter Witness our hands this 5th Decemb[r] 1753.

Witnesses
Lowe Pickman
John Nutting Jr.

Benj[h] Lynde
Benj[a] Picknam } Comtee
Joshua Hicks

Schedule to be annexed to Charter made to Benjamin Lynde Esq and others of Salem-Canada now called Lyndeborough.

Person's Names.	*No. of home division Lotts.*	*No. of Second division Lotts.*
Benjamin Lynde Esq	27, 50, 23	44, 55, 83, 84, 98, 101, 65
Benj. Pickman Esq	9, 22, 44	53, 66, 80, 83, 111
Robert Hooper Esq & Mr Swett's heirs	2, 8, 37, 41, 43, 49	[87, 94, 29, 103 34, 36, 37, 92, 93, 48, 49 108,
Joseph Blaney Esq	3, 6	30, 41, 54
Majr Joshua Hicks	28, 47	52, 97, 102, 114
Benjamin Goodhue	20, 58, 61	48, 60, 64, 115, 124, 125
Thomas Fletcher	18, 35	56, 57, 82
Samuel Wells Esq	54, 57	71, 75, 81
George Gould	24, 46	69, 70, 74
Ephraim Ingalls	40, 59	51, 112, 119, 123
Daniel Epes, Jr. Esq	51, 53	40, 73, 104, 107
Capt Joseph Richardson	19, 31	68, 89, 116, 118
Josiah Bowers	1	81
Joseph Bowditch Esq	4	86, 95
The Heirs of James Lindall Esq	7	77, 78
Stephen Putnam		113, 122
Jonathan Bowers	14	47, 79
John Bickford	16	38, 42
Moses Graves	38	109, 110
Majr John Towle	15	45, 105
Oliver Fletcher Esq	39	72
Hannah Cabot	42	120, 121
Joseph Clough	45	62, 96
David Stimson	48	58, 59
Daniel Nichols	52	68
Robert Swan	55	
Jonathan Peele	60	35, 61
Timothy Cumings	26	31, 32
William Holt	25	46, 76
School Lott	32	67, 126
Ministry Lott	33	90, 91
First Ministers Lott	34	126, 127

The foregoing List is the Schedule referred to in the annexed Charter

Benj[a] Lynde
Benj. Pickman } com[tee]
Joshua Hicks

[Note.—In the original MS. volume, p. 283, is a survey and plan of the abovesaid township. Ed.]

Petition for an Act of Incorporation.

To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq Governor and commander in chief in and over his majestys Province of New Hamp^{r} & the Hon^{r} his Majestys Council

The petition of a number of Inhabitants of said Province Humbly Sheweth that they live on a Tract of land in said province Bounded Easterly by Amherst southerly by Wilton Northerly by New Boston and Westerly Near what was called Peterborough and that said tract of land is not yet Incorporated into a Town & by reason of which they labour under many difficultys. Therefore your petitioners Humbly pray that they may be Incorporated into a Body Pollitick and by a charter be Invested with the Authority & Priviledges as other Towns have & enjoy in this province and y^{r} petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

June ye 28th 1763.

John Stephenson
Joseph Wilkins
William Holt
John Carkin
Jacob Cram
Jonathan Cram
David Cram
Moses Ordway
Ephraim Powers
Moses Steels
Ephraim Putnam
Melchisedek Corfee
David Badger
George Goold
Robert Badger
Moses Stiles, Jr
John Kidder
Joshua Hodle
John Ordway
John Johnston
Jacob Wellman
Adam Johnson
William Carson
John Hutchason
Edward Reming Jr

Having considered the within Petition I do hereby consent to the Incorporation of the s^{d} Town of Lyndeborough & you are hereby directed to prepare a charter of Incorporation accordingly

B. WENTWORTH

To Mr Secretary Atkinson.

MADBURY.

[Formerly a part of Dover; was incorporated 31 May, 1755. ED.]

Petition for a Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor & commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly convened the 10th day of May 1743.

The petition of Sundry Persons Inhabitants of the Westerly

part of the Town of Dover & the Northerly part of Durham in said Province Humbly Shews, That your Petitioners live at such a distance from the meeting houses in their Respective Towns as makes it difficult for them & their Families to attend the Publick Worship there especially in the Winter & spring seasons of the year, which Induc'd a number of your Petitioners some years since at their own cost to Build a meeting House situated more conveniently for them where they have some times had preaching in those seasons of the year at their own expence tho they were not Exempted from paying their proportion at the same time to the standing Minister of the Town.

That the Towns aforesaid are well able as your Petitioners apprehend to bear their annual charges without the assistance of y^r^ Petitioners and that *they* might be Incorporated into a new Parish whereby they might be accommodated their children & servants (as well as themselves) have more Frequent opportunities of attending Public Worship and all of them Reep the advantages of such an Incorporation which considering their present circumstances they think would not be a few, and the Towns not Injured.

That your Petitioners conceive a parish might be erected with out prejudice to the other part of the Town of Dover by the Following boundaries viz. Beginning at the Bridge over Johnsons Creek so called, where the dividing Line between Dover & Durham Cross the Country Road & from thence running as the said Road runs until it comes even with Joseph Jenkins his house & from thence to run on a North West & by North course until it comes to the head of said Township which boundaries would comprehend the estates & habitations of y^r^ Petitioners living in Dover & the making a parish there will greatly contribute to the settling the lands within said Boundaries & those that Lay contiguous as well as be very convenient for y^r^ Petitioners. Wherefore they most humbly pray that a parish may be erected & Incorporated by the Bounderies aforesaid with the usual powers & Priviledges & that such of y^r^ Petition^rs^ as live within the Town of Durham may have liberty to Poll off into the same, or that such a part of the said Township may be annexed thereunto which would be the better way as will accommodate the Remote settlers in said Township near the said Boundaries as well as your petitioners or that they may be Relieved In such other way & method as this Honble Court shall see fit, & yor petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &^c^

Thomas Wille
John Roberts
Samuel Davis
Samuel Chesley
John Huckins
James Jackson
Zachriah Pitman
Ely Demerit

Thomas Bickford
Daniel McHame
James Huckins
Ralph Hall
William Bussell
Azariah Boody
Timothy Moses
John Demeret
Zachariah Edgerly
Joseph Daniel
Francis Drew
Daniel Young
William Twombly
Isaac Twombly
Joseph Evans junr.
John Evens
Henry Bickford
Henary Bussell
Joseph Hicks
John Tasker
Derry Pitman
Paul Gerrish, Jr
John Busskell
Job Demeret
David Daniel
James Chesle
Reuben Chesle
Henery Tibbetes

John Foay, Jr
Solomon Emerson
Jacob Daniel
Joseph Rines
Benjamin Hall
William Demeret
William Allen
his
Nathiel O Davis
mark
Samuel Davis Jr
Jonathan Hanson
Robert Evens
Jonathan Daniel
William Hill
Stephen Pinkham
Beniamen Wille
John Rowe
Hercules Moony
Joseph Twombly
Abraham Clark
Joseph Jackson
James Clemens
William Dam Jr
Morres Fowler
Robart Wille
Abel Leathers

In the House of Representatives May 13th 1743.

The within Petition Read and Voted That the petitioners at their own cost serve the select men of the Town of Dover and also the select men of the Town of Durham with a coppy of this petition and the Vote thereon. That the selectmen of the Respective Towns aforesaid may Notifie the said Touns to appoint psons to appear the third day of the sitting of the Generall Assembly at their next sessions of Gen^{ll} Assembly to shew cause if any why the prayer of the petition may not be Granted.

James Jeffry Cler. Ass^{m}

Province of New Hamp } May 27th 1743.

The above Vote read & concurr'd
Theod^{r} Atkinson, Secry

Eodem Die. Assented to,

B. Wentworth.

Call for a town meeting in Dover.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Dover such as are Legally qualified to Vote in Publick Town meeting

This is to give notice of a publick Town meeting to be holden at the meeting House at Cocheco in Dover on Monday the nineteenth day of this Instant at three of the clock in the after noon to chuse a Constable &^{c} And also to hear the Request of the Westerly part of the Town called Madburry for Raising Money for the support of the Ministry in that part of the Town for six months.

Dover July 10th 1742.

Thos Willet
Jno Winget
Jos. Roberts
Ely Demeret
} Select men.

Pursuent to the foregoing Notification a publicke Toun meeting was holden at the Meeting House at Cochecho in Dover July 19, 1742. And Capt Thoˢ Willet Esq. was chosen Moderator of the sᵈ meeting &ᶜ

And the Request of the Westerly part of the Town for Raising money for the support of yᵉ Ministry in that part of the Town for six months as mentioned in the above notification was then heard considered & put to Vote & it Passed in the Negative.

A true copy attested,

Pr. Paul Gerrish,
Town Clerk.

Dover May 5th 1743.

Bounds of the West end of Dover.

These may certify That the Bounds the Inhabitants of the West End of Dover petitioned might be the bounds of a parish and Petitioned for is as follows viz.

Beginning at the Bridge over Johnsons Creek so called where the dividing Line between Dover & Durham crosses the Country road & from thence running as the sᵈ road runs until it comes even with Joseph Jenkins his house & from thence to run on a north West & by North course until it comes to the head of the sᵈ Township which Boundarys would comprehend the estates & Inhabitants of your Petitioners Living in Dover & the making a parish there will &ᶜ &ᶜ

A copy of the Bounds mentioned in the above Petition

Attested Pr. Theodore Atkinson.

The Petitioners for a Parish in Madbury & what they paid in the year 1743.

	£	S	
Thomas Willey	0	17	3
John Roberts		16	2
Samuel Davis		16	2
Paul Gerrish		10	11
Samuel Chesley		18	5
James Chesley		16	2
James Jackson		13	6
John Huckins	1	5	2
Job Demerett	1	2	4
John Tasker	1	3	2
David Daniel		16	11
Zachariah Pitman		15	0
Solomon Emerson	1	0	8
Joseph Hicks	1	17	6
James Huckins		10	11
Azariah Boody		10	2
Daniel Meserve	1	7	9
Francis Drew		15	9
Thomas Bickford		14	3
Ralph Hall		16	11
John Foy Jr		9	9
Henry Tebbets		17	6
Dery Pitman	1	13	9
John Bussell		14	3
William Bussell		10	11
William Demerett		13	11
Eli Demerett, Jr	1	2	6

Joseph Rines		8	3	
Jacob Daniel		13	11	
Timothy Moses		11	3	
Benjamin Hall		13	2	
John Demerett		15	0	
Zachariah Edgerly		19	11	
William Allen		9	9	
Joseph Daniel		12	9	
Nath[l] Davis		12	5	
Daniel Young		15	0	
Samuel Davis Jr		13	2	
Jonathan Hanson	0	0	0	
Robert Evans		11	3	
William Twombly 3rd		11	8	
Isaac Twombly		13	11	
Joseph Evens, Jr		9	9	
Jonn Evens		18	0	
Henery Bickford		11	8	
Jonathan Daniel		12	9	
William Hill		18	9	
Stephen Pinkham		10	11	
Henry Bussell		12	0	
Benjamin Willey		7	6	
John Row		7	6	
Herkules Mooney		8	3	
Joseph Twombly		11	3	
Abraham Clark	0	0	0	
Joseph Jackson		12	9	
James Clements		7	6	
Reuben Chesley		12	5	(1)
	40	10	1	

(1) Accompanying the foregoing is a list of inhabitants of Dover and tax assessed to a new Parish. Ed.

In the House of Representatives Aug. 24th 1744. The within petition read and the Parties on both sides heard, And the Return of the Committee appointed by the Gen[l] Ass[m] for the viewing of the Town of Dover, Read, and the House having considered thereon, Voted provided the petitioners procure an Orthodox minister or ministers to preach to them at that part of the Town of Dover called Madbury, Six months or more in a yeare during y[e] space of three years to comence from the first of y[e] next. That then there be Raised by the town of Dover & paid by the select men or Town Treasurer of the said Town of Dover annually to the said Minister or Ministers the sum of one hundred & twenty pounds (Old Tenor) after the Rate of twenty pounds p month as the preaching is Performed annually for the said three years and that the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry Clr. Ass[m]

In Council Decemb. 21, 1744.

The parties heard on the within Petition & the Vote of the Houses above Considered & non conqur'd. Nemine contradicente.

Theod. Atkinson Secy

Prov New Hamp (1)

"Wherefore to remedy the above Grievances your Humble petitioners Humbly pray That your Excellency & Hon[rs] would be pleased by an Act of General Assembly to Invest us with the Privilidges and pow-

ers of a Town, and a small matter to enlarge our Boundarys according or near our first petition viz. to begin at a place in Quochecho river called the gulf and from thence on a Straight Line to the Southern side of Varneys Great Hill & from thence to run on a North West point of the compass to the end of the Township and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall &c"

The above is Paragraph of a Petition signed Paul Wentworth & many others free holders & Inhabitants of the Parish of Sumersworth, Dated May the 19th 1743 & then preferred to the General Assembly of the Prov. aforesd

Attest,

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

(1) This paper apparently belongs to Somersworth. ED.

MARLOW.

[Marlow was chartered Oct. 7, 1761. ED.]

Province of } Marlow, January ye 7th 1772. These may Certifye
NewHampshire } His Excellency the Govornour & His Majesties Honourable Councel the foloing a count are of the Names of the Heds of famelys, Now dwelling in this Toun and of the Single men now dwelling here.

Heds of famelys

Jasper Huntley	Abel Beckwith
Loas Huntley widow	Selvenes Beckwith
Elisha Mack	Joseph Huntley
Silvenus Huntly	Solomon Gee
Nathan Huntly	Nehemiah Royce
Eber Lewis	Elisha Royce
Richard Otes	Abisha Tubs
Samll Camfield	Titus Church
John Gustin	Epraham Brockway
Abner Bingham	Solomon Mack
Saml Gustin	Aseph Mather
Nicodemus Miller	Joseph Tubs
Ruel Royce	John Noyce Mather
Jonathan Royce	Martin Wade.

Single men.

Ruphas Huntley	Asa Huntly
Isaih Huntly	Thomas Gustin
Nathan Huntly	Phedrack Tubbs
Josiah Gustin	Simeon Church

Famelys made preparation to com on next Spring.

Abner Tubs	Samll Comstock
John Mack	Timothy Owen
Zopher Mack	

Wee the Subscribers selectmen of the Town Marlow Do hereby certify that the names of the famelys above mentioned and singel men

are now Residents and dwelers here the others have been making preparation to come on as above mentioned

Nathan Huntley } Selectmen
Eber Lewis } of ye town
of Marlow

Petition for extension of Charter.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Capt. General & Commander In chief of his Majesties Province of New Hampshire.

May it please you excellency,

Wee the Subscribers proprietors in the township of Marlow in the Provence aforesd being Notefyed to appear byfore your Excellency to shew Reasons why the delinquent Rights & Shares in said township should not be Declared forfet we therefore Beg leave to Represent to your Excellency that we soon begain the settlement in the said Township and lay'd out considerable Sums therefor & the same was in a hoopfull way of being Spedely settled & the conditions of the grant complied with & that the proprietors or most of them lay'd out apart of their proportions or shares in the said Township & that sum time after the Laying out s^d^ Township & the proprietors a settling & s^d^ town was in a flurishing state and likely Soon to be settled & the conditions fulfild the proprietors of a large Tract of land in the s^d^ provence of New Hampshire call^d^ Masons patten caused their line of their patent to be Run & assertained whereby it appeared that more than one mile in Breadth through said town ship was Included in the pattent aforesaid whereby the proprietors of said Township were thrown into the uttermost consternation many of the settlements which were then begun falling within the aforesaid pattent and the property in the town much lessened and many of the Setlers went of & others who were going on Discouraged that we have been at grate Expence and endevered to settle with the proprietors of said pattent for the Lands included in there grant but have been hitherto unsuccessful notwithstanding which discurigements we have not given over the thoughts of making our settlements in s^d^ Township and are prosecuing our settlements as fast as poseeble under which discouragements we hope the rights in s^d^ Township which are not settled will not be declared forfeit^d^ but humbly pray the Grant & charter of said Township may be confirmed to us & the charter thereof extended & we shall do our uttermost Indevours that the settlement shall be made according to the conditions of the said charter & grant & we as In duty bound shall ever pray

Dated december 30th 1771.

Original Proprietors.
Jacob Canfield
Ephraim Brockway
Nehemiah Royce
William Matson
Geo: King
John Bettenham

Proprietors by purchase.
Nathan Huntly 2 Rites
Rufus Huntly 1 Rite
Sam[ll] Canfield 2 Rites
Eber Lewis 2 Rites
Loes Huntly 1 Rite
Joseph Brown 1 Rite
Joseph Tubs 2 Rites.
Abijha Tubs 1 Right.
Ruel Royce 1 Right.
Jonathan Royce 1 Rite
Elisha Royce 1 Rite.
Sam[ll] Royce 1 Right.
Nicodemus Miller 2 Rights.
John Gustin 1 Right.
Solomon Gee 1 Right
Abel Beckwith 1 Right.
Simon Baxter 1 Right
Sylvanus Huntly 1 Rite.
Elisha Mack, 1 Rite.
Abner Bingham 1 Rite.
Sam[ll] Gustin } Agent for
} s[d] proprietors.
Ezra Selden
Abner Lee
John M[c]Curdy
Benjamin Hide
Samuel Comstock
Solomon Mack
Thomas Sabin
Benjamin Lee

MERRIMACK.

[Incorporated 2 April, 1745. Ed.]

Petition for a tax on non-resident lands.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov[r] & the Hon[ble] his Majestys Councill & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Convened at Portsmouth the 9th of April 1754.

The petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Merrimack Humbly Shews.

That their settlement is in its Infancy the greatest part of the Inhabitants settled since the late war and have been at Large Expence in clearing and making of roads that they have Built & Have to maintain three great Bridges over Souheeg River besides many over severall other large Streams in that Town at the Expence of near a Thousand pounds besides other necessary Town charges which has all been Loaded on the few Inhabitants there settled and are now a going to erect a meeting house in s[d] town the Burden whereof will be exceeding Heavy & a discouragement to persons settling there if the tax must wholly be Raised on Poles and estates.

That theres a considerable quantity of unimproved Lands in s[d] Town owned by non-resident Gentlemen who has never been at any expence in Bringing forward the settlement or Otherways whereby the Inhabitants has been eased; That the

settlers by their Labour & Industry has Increased the Vallue of such Lands more than four double to what they would have been & they must still greatly increase on the Florishing of the s[d] Town.

Wherefore we Humbly pray that your excellency & Hon[rs] would please to grant that all the lands Belonging to nonresident prop. in that town whereon settlement is not made may be taxed at Sixpence per acre for one year to be Improved for and Towards building a meeting house and two pence per acre for the next four years for and towards the support of a minister and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

PHINEHAS UNDERWOOD
WILLIAM ALLD
CHEARITY LUND
JOSEPH BLANCHARD jun } Select[n]

Prov. N. Hamps. In council April 16th 1754
Read & ordered to be sent down, to y[e] Hon[ble] House of Represents.
Theod Atkinson, Secy.

Province of New Hamps } In the house of Representatives April 16th 1754.

Upon reading the within petition, Voted that the Petitioners be heard on the within petition on the third day of the sitting of the Gen[ll] Assembly after the last day of June next, and that the petitioners at their own cost Insert the substance of the s[d] petition and orders thereon in two of the public papers viz[t] In the News Boy print and the Tuesdays paper three weeks successively, that any person or persons may shew cause if any they have, why the prayer of the petition should not be granted.

Matthew Livermore, Clerk.

In Council, Eod[m] Die
Read & Concurr'd.
Theodore Atkinson Secry.

Province of New Hamp[r] } In the House of Representatives Dec 14th 1754.

Upon the motion of Mr Jonathan Lovewell that the foregoing within petition might be revived, Voted that the petitioners be heard on the within Petition on the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the twentyeth day of January next and that the petitioners at their Own cost Insert the substance of the said petition and orders thereon in one of the public news papers two weeks successively that any person or persons may shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the petition should not be granted.

Matthew Livermore Clerk.

December 14, 1754.
The above vote Read and Concurred.
Theod. Atkinson Secry.

Province of New Hampr } In the House of Representatives Jan. y[e] 23, 1755.

The within petition being read & the subject matter of the prayer thereof being duly weighed & considered,

Voted, That the prayer of s[d] petition so far as relates to the six pence Pr acre to be Improved for & toward building a Meeting House be granted, that the Meeting House be built as soon as Conveniently may

be & the acc^{tts} thereof laid before the Genl Assem^{b}, & that the petitioners have Liberty to bring in an act accordingly.

Hen. Sherburne Jr. Clr. P. T.

In Council Eod^{m} Die.

Read & Concurr'd in appearing to the Board that advertizment agreeable to vote had been issued.

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition for dividing the State into Counties.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Govr &^{c} the Hon$^{bl e}$ his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Convened at Portsmouth y^{e} 9th of April 1754.

Wee the subscribers Inhabitants of the Province of New Hamp^{r} on the West side of Merrymac River,

Would most Humbly Remonstrate, That the extent of the settlements in this Province is upwards of One Hundred miles Westward from Portsmouth the Place where all the Courts are held.

That the Difficulties of Travill & expence to and from Portsmouth on all County Emergencies Lays the Western Inhabitants under Insuportable Disadvantage as well as Occasioning great delay to the Parties & Jurors who necessaryly attend the courts of Judicature, by which the Government is Greatly Impoverish^{d}

That we Humbly apprehend these Grievances might be in some good meas^{r} Redress^{d} by dividing the Government into Two Countys. Which also would be a means of a great Increase of Inhabitants & Improvements in the Western parts of this Province.

Wherefore we Humbly pray That your Excellency & Honors would take the premises into consideration & Divide the province into two Countys by such dividing Line & with such Powers and Authoritys as in your wisdom shall be tho^{t} Best, and as in Duty Bound shall pray.

Merrimack Names.

Jon^{a} Cumings, Jr	James Cowans
Samuel Spaulding	Thomas Vickere Jr
William Patten	James Moore
Zachariah Stearns, Jr	David Thomson
Ebenezer Hills	Thomas Barns
John Stearns	Samuel Vose
Zachariah Stearns	John Thome
Daniel Stearns	John Hanry
William McCluer	Joseph Farmer
John McClencke	Thomas Farmer
Hugh Giles	John Roby
Robert Murdough	Ephraim Powers

James Mathays
Tim° Taylor
Reuben Grele
John Hutchison
Thos Cowan
Moses Trull
Benj. Auger
James M°Claer
James Kanady
James Morr Jr
Robert M°Cluer
Phi^s Underwood
Jonathan Cumings
Simeon Cumings
William Usher
Jonas Barret
Francis Dimon
William Alld
William Howard

Bedford Names.

John Usher
Robert Usher
Benj. Hallatt ?
Benjamin Baxter
Elaxander Anis
Eli Turrel
William Arbuckle
Robert M°Cormick
Samuel Miller
James Miller
James Mathay
Joseph Thomas
Thomas Rickere
Robert Nesmith
Samuel Barnet
James Gillmor
Robt Gillmor
James Gillmoore
John Chamberlin
Joseph Blanchard, Jr
Patrick Tagard
William Henry
William Hastings
James Minott
Joseph Barnes
Mathew Thornton
William M'cluer jun.
Charity Lund
John M°Laughlin
William Lund
James M°Clure

Petition of Inhabitants of Merrimack to be attached to Col. Goffe's Regiment.

To the Honourable John Goffe Esqr Col° of the ninth Regiment of Melitia in the Province of New Hamp^r

The Humble suplication of The Inhabitants of that part of Merrymac formerly Souhegan East, *Sheweth*,

That your suplicants are exceeding Desireous if it might be granted to us to be under your Comand as our Col'no, & apprehend that as souhegan River was formerly the bounds between old Dunstable and the Souhegans as may appear pr the Plan &^c and there is at Least thirteen or fourteen Companys in Col° Lovewills Regiment to the southward of said River,

And that if the affair were fairly Represented to his Excellency our Governor your Honr might easely obtain our suplication—would pray your favour and Interest in behalf of this our Suplication with our Governor and shall as in duty bound ever pray.

Benja Baxter
Thomas Vickere Jr
John Stewart
Alexander M°Caly
James M°Calley
William Alld
James Cowan
James Thomas
Robert Griffin
Samuel M°Conihie

John McConihie
Joseph Scobey
James Moore
Saml Caldwell
John Cunningham
Robert Nesmith ?
John Jacobs
James Moors Jr
John Thomes
James Moor, Sr
Joseph Farmer
James Gillmor
Robert Gillmor
Samuel Gillmor
John Gillmor
Samuel Barnat
William Henry
John Henry Jr
Daniel McCleary Jr
William Alld Jr
Patrick Taggart
Joseph McClenche
John McClenche
John Henry
Robert McCormick
Samuell Miller
Mathew Miller
Samuell Gibson
Robert Gillmor Jr
Thomas Vickere
Moses Vickere

MONADNOCK NO. 7.

Petition for an Act of Incorporation.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Capt General Governor & Commander in chief in & Over the Province of New Hamp^{r} The Hon$^{bl\,e}$ his Majesties Council for said Province.

Humbly shew, Jonathan Blanchard & Oliver Parker agents Legally chosen for the Freeholders & Inhabitants of that Tract of Land in said Province Known by the name of Monadnock number seven. That your petitioners Entred into and upon the premises under a Title from the Proprietors of Masons Right so called & have with great Toil & Labour form'd very considerable settlements therein.

That the Tract of land afores^{d} contains about six miles square, & is well situated for a Township that they have built a Meeting house & have had preaching occasionally for eighteen months Last past that they Labour under difficulties for want of an Incorporation which if obtained would greatly Promote the Public good.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray they may be Incorporated into a Body Politick to have continuance & be Invested with all the Powers Priviledges & Immunities that other Towns in said Province by Law Exercise & enjoy, And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

John Blanchard
Oliver Parker

NEW BOSTON.

[New Boston was granted by Massachusetts, Jan. 14, 1736. Incorporated by New Hampshire, Feb. 18, 1763. Ed.]

Petition about minister and school lots.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

The petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants, proprietors & freeholders in the Township of New Boston in the province aforesaid Humbly shews

That when the proprietors of said New Boston Drew their Respective shares and the shares for publick use, The Lott Number Sixty one was drawn, for the use of the first settled minister & his heirs forever, & the Lott Number fifty three was drawn for the use of school, Both Lotts in the Second Division. And whereas the said Lott N° 61 is far from the Center of said Toun, & yet the nearest of any Lott belonging to said Ministers Right, & the Lott N° 53, tho one mile from said Center is much more convenient, & your Petitioners having been long Destitute of the Gospel ministry & having now a prospect of settling a gentleman to our great satisfaction, & being exceeding, desirous to accommodate him in the best manner possible, the Inhabitants aforesaid at a Legal meeting Held in New Boston aforesaid the third day of Dec. Last past, Voted unanimously to exchange said Lotts (viz) that the abovesaid Lott N° 53 shall forever hereafter be the property of the first settled minister in said New Boston to him & his heirs & Assigns forever, & that the Lot n° 61 shall forever hereafter be for the use of the school there, this Vote on condition that your Excellency & Honours confirm it & for the Reesons aforesaid the petitioners Humbly pray your consideration on the premises & that either the abovesaid Vote may be confirmed or the exchange made in such a manner as will secure the property to the minister & school forever & your Petitioners as in duty Bound will ever pray

New Boston 25th Feb. A D. 1768.

Ninian Clark	Robt Livingston
Mathew Caldwell	John Gordon
William Caldwell	James Hunter
Robert Boyd	John McAllester
Robt Clark	Robert White
John M'Laughlin	Daniel McAllester
Willm Clark	William Moor
Henary Ferson	William Grag

James Cochran
Nethaniel Cochran
William Boyce
Allen Moor
George Cristy
Jesse Cristy
Robart Hogg
James Ferson
Paul Ferson
James Ferson, Jr
Thomas McColom
Thomas Cochran
John Cochran
Peter Cochran
Thomas Cochran Jr
Abraham Cochran

In Council March 3, 1768.
Read & sent down to the Honble Assembl.y
Geo. King Dep. Secy.

Province of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives March 4th 1768.

Voted, That the pray^{r} of this petition be Granted & that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill or Resolve for establishing the same accordingly

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eodem die,
Read & concurred.
Geo. King, Depy Secy.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Represent^{s} March 7th 1768.

The petition of sundry persons Inhabitants of New Boston was this day again taken under Consideration by which it is Represented, That when the Lots were sever'd belonging to the respective shares of the proprietors of said Township the Lot numbered sixty one was drawn to the share appropriated to the use of the first settled minister & his heirs forever and the lot Numbered fifty three was drawn to the share appropriated to the use of a school which might be changed greatly to the advantage of the First Minister which was now likely to settle in said Town whom they were Desirous to Encourage. They therefore Pray'd that they might be authorized to make said exchange and that the Votes they had passed for that Purpose be confirmed and it appearing that the settling of a minister of the Gospel in any New Township to his & the Peoples satisfaction tends much to the Increase of Inhabitants and the property of such Town. Therefore it is considerd & hereby Resolved and Voted That the votes of the said Inhabitants for making said exchange be & hereby are confirmed for this purpose and that the lot Number Sixty one in second division in said Township be & hereby shall be adjudged taken & held as part of the share of land there belonging to said school right & share, and the Lot numbered fifty three in the said division in said Township shall be adjudged taken & held as part of the share & right appropriated & belonging to the first minister of the Gospel in said Township, each of said Lots so to be adjudged taken & held to be given granted & so appropriated in exchange for the other to be held to & for the Respective uses aforesaid forever.

P. Gilman, Speaker.

In Council Eodem die,
Read & Concurr'd.
Geo. King Depy. Secy.
Attested,
J' WENTWORTH.

Petition for a tax on certain lands.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his majesties Province of New Hampshire & Vice admiral of the same &c The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly convened.

The subscribers Inhabitants of New Boston in the county of Hillsborough in said Province, Humbly shews, That when your petitioners settled the Reverend Mr Solomon Moore all the Inhabitants on that tract of Land then called New Boston Addition, joined with us in calling, settling paying &c & we expected would have done so for many years. But they are now by your Excellency and Honours sett off by the name of Frances Town & pay no more with us.

2ly The Roads in New Boston are very numerous & the Land very hilly & Rocky & we have many large Bridges to build & support over large streams. Finally the Province tax the ministers Sallary, the Roads & Bridges, oppress the few Inhabitants many of which are new beginners & advances the none Resident Land

Therefore your Petitioners Humbly pray your Excellency & Honours that an Act may be made to tax all the Land in New Boston, Improved & not Improved, Resident and None Resident, The Land belonging to the purchasers of the Patent of John Tufton Mason Esq. Excepted, at one penny Lawful money pr acre pr annum, for six years next coming to be applied to the uses afores^{d}, and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c

New Boston Oct 25th A D. 1773.

William Booyes	Robert White
Nathl Cochran	Jo^{n} Caldwell
John Cochran Jr	Robert Boyde
John Graham	Robert Campbell
Archibald McMillan	James Ferson
James Cochran	Paul Ferson
David Henderson	James Ferson Jr
Thomas Cochran	Robert Patterson
George Cristey	John Smith
William Clark	Alexander Willson
John McLaughlin	John McAllister
Jesse Cristy	Daniel M^{c}allister
James Willson	Ananias M^{c}allister
Thomas Willson	William Love
Peter Cochran	Josiah Warren
William Moor	James Gregg
John McMillan	Robert Hogge
Daniel McMillan, Jr	Alex^{r} Gregg
John McMillan Jr	Hugh Gregg
William Keler	Ni^{n} Clark
Archibald M^{c}allester	John Cochran

Reuben Smith	Abraham Cocran
John Gordon	James Willson Jr
William Blair	James Gregg Jr

We the above Subscribers authorize & appoint the Honourable Mathew Thornton Esq our agent to present this petition to his Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governor & commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire & the Honourable his Majestys councel & House of Representatives & get the prayer thereof granted if possible and we the Petitioners Beg the Favour of the Hon^{a}ble Mathew Thornton Esq to *Ex*cept the trust we Repose in him.

In Council Jan. 13, 1774.
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly
Geo. King, D. Secry.

Province of New Hampshire.
In the house of Represent^{s} January 14th 1774.
Voted, That the petitioners cause the substance of this petition to be printed in the New Hampshire Gazzette three weeks successively that any person having any Objections may be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly next after the 15th of February next.

William Parker, Cler. Assem

In Council Eodem die.
Read and concurrd.
Geo. King.

Petition to raise taxes to finish the Meeting house.

Province of } To his Excellencey Benning Wentworth
New Hampshir } Esq Governor &^{c} The Honorable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province

The proprietors of the Township of New Boston in said Province Most humbly Remonstrate,

That the said Proprietors have raised the frame of a house for the publick worship of God in said Town and is not in a capacity to Raise money to compleat and finish the same by which Inability said frame remains uncovered and if it continues so any space of time uncovered will be damaged if not wholy ruined wherefore they pray this Honorable Court to take there case into their wise consideration and enable them to Raise such sum or sums of money from time to time as shall be judged necessary by a majority of votes of said proprietors for the compleating and finishing said House, and any other affairs of said Proprietors (for the benefit of the Inhabitants of said town and proprietors) on each person or persons owning lands in said Townships and to enable said proprietors to sell so much of such delinquent owners of land in said Town (excepting those Rights owned by the purchasers of Tufton Mason Esq claime in said Province) not as yet improved by said

purchasers and your petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray

Septem 25, 1764.

JOHN HILL
JAMES HALSEY
JAMES CALDWELL
THOMAS COCHRAN
} Com^tee of s^d Proprs

Province of New Hampshir } Septem 25, 1764, at a meeting of the proprietors of New Boston held at the Dwelling House of Mr Thos Harwood in Dunstable in said Province,

Voted That Mr James Callwell prefer the above petition in behalf of said proprietors and attend the directions of the Generall Court there.

Attest Robt Jenkins, P. Clerk

Prov of New Hamp.
In Council Jany 8th 1765
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
T. Atkinson, P Secry.

Province of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives Jany 9th 1765.

This petition being read,

Voted, That the prayer thereof be granted Except the Exception made In the Latter end of the within petition & that the petitioners have liberty to bring In a bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson, Clerk

Eod^m Die.
Read & Concurred
T. Atkinson Secry.

VOLUME V.

NEWCASTLE TO PORTSMOUTH.

NEWCASTLE.

To his Excellency Samuell Shute Esqr. Capt. Generall Gov ernor in chief in & over his majesties Province of New Hampshire & Vice Adm[ll] of the Same and to the Hon[ble] the Councill & Representatives Now Conven'd in Generall Assembly for s[d] Province.

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town ot New Castle in s[d] Province Humble *sheweth*,

That Whereas It was Voted in this Generall Assembly on the 18 day of May 1716 that the Isle of Sholes be obleidged to pay their province Tax in the Town of New Castle, But a proportion for them to pay was not Set, and therefore your humble Petitioners Never took upon them to tax or Lay any Proportion on the Inhabitants thereof:

Your Petitioners being a Small number and a poore people, Humbly prays the Same Vote may be renewed and that alsoe this Assembly would Direct, & Say, what proportion the Isle of Sholes Shall pay out of the Province Tax that Is Laid on the Town of New Castle.

And alsoe that there may be Authority Given to Assess And Gather the same, & your Petitioners Shall Ever Pray &c.

GOTHAM ODIORNE
JOHN SHERBURN
JOHN LEACH
} Select men

Petition against a bridge at New Castle.

Prov. N. Hamp

To His Excellency Sam[l] Shute Esqr. Capt. General and Gov[r] in chief in and over His Maj[ties] Prov. Afores[d] and vice admiral of the same, and To the Hon[blc] the Councile, and house of represen[ves] now sitting in General Assembly.

The Petition of Sundry His Majesties good Subjects of the town of Portsmouth and N. Castle w[th]in the Province afore[sd], most Humbly *Sheweth*,

That some years since, at the time of our late Gov[r] Col[o] Dudleys administration, a projection was made, and a scheme

laid, for ye building a bridge from great Island, over the main river of little harbour, to the Main land wch project was no sooner budded than nipt, wch prevented its growth, till now tis Sprung up anew, and may if not timely prevented, ripen to a head wch may be of lasting ill-consequence throughout ye s^d^ Province especially to the sea-faring part thereof. May it please yor Excellency and ye hon^ble^ Genl Assem^y^

We would take leave in ye first place humbly to address our selves to you by way of Quere, (viz:) Whether it be not an infringement on ye rights & priviledges of ye Genl Assem. for any town w^th^in this province to make and pass any Vote or Votes, for ye building any bridge, over any navigable river w^th^in ye Same as New Castle hath done, and made a begining thereupon, as is above mentioned, that is to say, to build a bridge from great Island to the main w^th^in the afores^d^ town of N. Castle wch cannot be Justify-able either in law or equity, w^th^out a Special Act of Genl Assem^by^ for so doing. The reason is plain, for that every navigable river, tho' it may run through any town yet is not ye peticular property of that town but of the Prov. in Genl wherein ye town lyes, So that tis most evident, y^t^ tis a matter y^t^ ought to be before ye Genl Assem^y^ & not to be proceeded on by ye authority of a town vote, for illustration, may we further humbly offer, that if such a proceeding upon Such authority is legale and Justifyable, that then N. Castle & Kittery may as wele unite and joyn together and build a bridge from s^d^ N. Castle to s^d^ Kittery (if it were practicable) across ye mouth of the Great Harbour, because one town lyes on one side, & tother on ye other, wch amounts to just so great a weight of reason, as can be offered in the other case and no more

And now we have plainly demonstrated that ye afores^d^ town of N. Castle, hath entered upon a matter quite out of its legal reach, Now we will in ye next place as evidently sett forth, that It is as much out of reason that a bridge Should be built at ye place aforementioned, as it is out of ye pow^r^ of N. Castle to build it.

1 There is a ferry stated over s^d^ river, a high way laid out through the first proprietors lands to said ferry, much money expended in repairing a Cassway to s^d^ ferry & the ferry house all wch are benefitts lost & money spent w^th^out profitt if a bridge be built.

2^d^ All ye Inhabitants of N. Castle pass & repass ferridge free on Lords days and training days & all publick days.

3^d^ The want of a bridge will be a Security in case of a warr.

4 Sundry persons living there and thereabout have Some laid out ye most part, and some ye whole of their estates in

fishery who must unavoidably be ruined if s[d] bridge be allowed of, for stopping their passage is in Effect tying up their hands, & haling their Shallops ashore.

5 If a bridge be built it will stop y[e] ice & cause it to Jamm together in y[e] winter season that there will be no passing for y[e] fishing boatts for three or four months in Winter w[ch] is y[e] harvest for fishing, where as tis now never frozen over or Jamed save two or three days together & that in very hard weather.

6 Another unspeakable hardship w[ch] will attend a bridge is y[e] transportation of Hay from y[e] meadows and marishes where the tides must be attended both by night and day and to pass under a draw bridge or through any such gap as their may be wth a gondela of hay in a dark night & a strong wind or in any other vessel wth so strong a Current as there is beside must needs be a danger too terrible to be thought on.

Whereupon we humbly pray no bridge may be allowed as before mentioned and petition[rs] shall ever pray as in Duty bound.

The foregoing petition being read In Councile it was voted That The Hearing thereof shall be on Thursday next 10 o'clock A. M. & y[t] y[e] parties be notifyed accordingly.

Rich[d] Waldron Cler. Con.

Nath[a] Gerrish
Stephen Nole
John Leach
y[e] mark
of George X Walles
Richard Shortbridg
Nathaniel Lang
Stephen Lang
Robert Lang
y[e] mark
of Jn[o] X Lang
John Lang
y[e] mark
of Jn[o] ‡ E Dallof ?
Silvanus Scott
William White
Thomas Beck Jun.
John Abbet
y[e] mark of
Thomas X Barrons
Nicholes Hilliver ?
John Jackson Jun
y[e] mark of
Jno X Leear
William Addams
y[e] mark of
Thomas X Maine
y[e] mark of
Jn[o] Shores

Jn[o] Hardeson
Benj[a] Foster
W[m] Cotton
Thomas Cotton
William Warrnen
Henry Bickford
Jo[a] Sherburn
Paul Gerrish
Hen Sloper
John Knight
Rich[d] Cutt
John Sherburn
John Jackson
John Jackson Jun.
Peter Ball Sen.
Peter Ball Junr.
Will Braden
John Ham
y[e] mark of
Jn[o] X Cross
Nathaniel Odiorn
Stephen Greenleaf
James Jeffry
Jeth[o] Furbur
John Pickeren
Tobias Lear
Will[m] Seavey
Will[m] Sevey Jun[r]
Ben Amaskeen

Joseph Seavey
John Davies
Georg Banfill
ye mark of
Sampson X Babb
Phillip Pain
Hugh Banfill
Charles Banfiel
ye mark of
Jno Rowe
Abraham Jones
Mathew Nelson
Ambros Sloper
ye mark of
Jno X Peverly sen
John Peverly
Tobias Langdon
Geo Walker
Thomas More
John Abbott
Benj^a^ Ackerman Sr
Ephraim Jackson

New Castle's Answer to Sandy-beach Petition.

To the Honourable John Wentworth Esqr. Lieut Governour and Command^r^ in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and to the Honourable the Council & Representatives in Genl Assembly Convened at Portsm^o^ in the Said Province.

The answer of Hugh Reed, Jo^s^ Simson and Daniel Greennough (in behalf of the Inhabitants of that part of New Castle called the Great Island and others adjoining thereto) To a Petition prefer'd to yor Hon^rs^ by Sundry of the Inhabitants of Little Harbour and Sandy beach &^c^ Your Respondents Humbly pray that the Prayer of the afores^d^ Petition may not be granted for that it may prove to be of very ill Consequence not only to yor respond^ts^ but also to the whole Province in Generall. The Inhabitants of Great Island are Gen^ly^ poor and depend on the fishery for a livelyhood, which is very precarious and uncertain, so y^t^ they are not able to maintain a Minister of the Gospell among them without the assistance of the afores^d^ Petitioners, the want of which will Discourage many of the said Inhabitants and oblige them to remove and go to live Else where and those that will remain will be oblidged to go off of the Island on the Lords day to attend the Publick Worship of God, which in time of Warr will much Expose the Kings Fort on s^d^ Island to the Surprise of an enemy the afores^d^ Petition^rs^ Saying that they are willing to Contribute to the Subsistance of the ministry during the rev^d^ Mr Shurtleffs life or Continuance among us (which is both alicke uncertain) will not avail, for Should their Prayer be granted its very Likely Mr Shurtleff would be so Discouraged as to leave us, but admit he should Continue wth us as long as he lives, yet at his Death (wch we know not but may be before the year comes about) we Shall be Destitute and so Exposed to the afores^d^ Inconveniences.

Yo^r^ Respond^ts^ therefore most Humbly Pray That if the afores^d^ Petition^rs^ be Set off by themselves That they be so in all respects, and that one half of the Land in New Castle be

Subjected to bear the Burthen of the Publick Charge for that part Call'd Great Island and the other half to that Part Call'd Sandy beach. Except Some other Expedient may be found for the Comfortable Maintainance of our Minister for The afores[d] Petition[rs] are Possessed of some Thousands of acres of the best Land in New Castle, and yo[r] respond[ts] but of a few Hundred and most of that so rocky as not fitt for Tillage, and besides that yo[r] respond[ts] have a great many poor widows to releave all which being Considered by yo[r] Hon[rs] yo[r] respond[ts] doubts not of yo[r] Hon[rs] doing therein according to Equity and good Conscience and will as in duty bound ever pray.

HUGH REED
JOSEPH SIMPSON
DAN[l] GREENOUGH

April 12th 1726

Joshua Foss
Nath Foss
Samell Sanders o
Nathaniel Berry o
Nathanael Berry Jun[r]
Robart Sanders o
John Sanders o
William Marden o
Jotham Berry o
Ebenezer Marden o
Amos Cross
Jonathan Locke o
Oren Dowst ? o
Jonathan Dolbuer o
John Dolbuer o
his
Joseph X Brown o
mark
Jethro Lock o
Thomas Shannon o

John Lane o
William Lock o
Elijah Lock o
James Perkins
James Lock o
Joseph Brown
W[m] Randall o
Joses Philbrick o
Joseph Lock o
his
John X Lock
mark
William Lock Junr. o
Joseph Philbrick
Richard Lock o
John Pain o
Nat[l] Sargent o
Hugh Reed o
Jo[s] Frost o

N. B. the Persons markt Thus o against their Names ware Present att the Election and ten Persons more ware Present att the Elect[n] w[ch] voted for Wm. Frost & Jon[a] Lock but ware not at home when this Petition was carried for them to Sign it.

Petition of Sundry of y[e] Inhabitants of New Castle & Rye

To the Hon[ble] the House of Represent[ves] of the Prov. of New Hamp[re] now Siting at Portsm[o]

Yo[r] Petition[rs] Humbly Shew,

That at a meeting of the Free Hold[rs] of the Town of New Castle & Parrish of Rye at New Castle aforesaid on the Second Inst. to Chuse two meet Persons to Represent the Said

Town and Parrish in General Assembly—That Thos Bell & Richd Jenness Esqrs. wer chosen or said to be chosen for the Purpose above mentioned wch yor Petitionrs Conceive was Illegal for that Sundry Persons were admitted to Vote at said Meeting which were not Qualify'd as the Law Directs in Such Cases together with some other Illegal Practices used In order to obtain Said choice which may be made appear when the Honblis House shall be pleased to order A Hearing thereon wch we pray may be Granted as Early as will Suit with the Priviledges and Interests of those Libertys of which your Honrs are the Guard, and yor Petitirs further pray yt upon the Proof of this their Complaint yt the said Thomas Bell & Richd Jenness Esqrs. may be Dismist the House and yt the said Town of New Castle and Parrish of Rye may have the Liberty of an other Choice and yor Petitrs ass in Duty bound shall Ever Pray.

Jany. 5th 1748

o Wm Frost
o Willm Sevey
his
Wm X Rand
mark
—— ? Seavey
William Seavey Jun.
his
o James X Shut
mark
his
Joseph X Sevea
mark
o Joshua Rand
Noah Shelburne
o Jonathan Goss
o Ebenezer Berry
o Jonathan Marden
o Thomas Goss
o William Berry
o William Marden
Samuel Dwst
Simon Knowles
his
John X Salter
mark
o James Marden
o Zechariah Berry
o Joseph Yeaton
Samuel Berry
his
Nehemiah X Berry
mark

Petition for aid in behalf of the Ministry.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Honble His Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for Said Province in General Assembly Convened May 27th 1748

The Humble Petition of Joseph Newmarch & Matthew Livermore Esqrs. as agents for the Town of New Castle in Said Province *Shews*

That by an Act made & pass'd in the twelfth year of His Late Majestys Reign Entituled an Act for the Settling & Establishing of two Parishes in the Town of New Castle, Among other things it is Enacted that in Consideration the

Meeting house at the Island is Conveniently Situated for the Soldiery Posted at his Majestys Fort William & Mary to Repair to for the Benefit of the Gospel-Ministry that there be twenty four pounds paid annually out of the Excise towards the Support of a Gospel Minister on the Said Island. That the said Grant has not been duly Complied with & paid which as the said Town & the Minister there have had hopes & Expectations of & Really wanted has been Detrimental to both and having a just claim to by the said act think that a farther Delay of the payment thereof will be keeping them ought of their Right & Still a greater Injury as the Nominal Sum is not a third part of the Real value it would have been if Seasonably & annually paid. Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of their Principals Humbly Pray that the premises may be considered that they may be heard thereon & have leave to shew what is now justly due upon the said Grant & that the same and all arrearages thereof & whatsoever is due may be paid without further Delay and your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall ever Pray &c.

JOSEPH NEWMARCH
MATTHEW LIVERMORE

Coun^{l} Eodem Die
read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble House
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Prov of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 28th May 1748
Voted That ye Petitioners be heard on this Petition on Fryday next at three o'clock P. M.
D. Peirce, Clr.

June 3^{d} 1748
Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition ye Third Day of ye Setting of next Genl assembly.
D. Peirce Clr.

Rev. Mr. Blunt's Petition.

Province of N. Hamp^{r} To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor & Commander in Chief In & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire The Honorable His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Court Convened.

The Petition of John Blunt of New Castle in the Province of New Hampshire Clerk Humbly *Shews*

That in the year of Our Lord 1726 a Law was pass'd by the General Assembly of this Province wherein (among other things) it is Enacted that In Consideration that the Meeting House on the Great Island is Conveniently Situated for the Soldiers Posted at His Majesty's Fort William & Mary

that twenty four "Pounds per annum be paid out of the Excise towards the Support of a Gospel Minister on the said Island," by virtue whereof & of your Petitioner's sustaining that office there, he humbly conceives he has a just claim to the payment of the aforesaid Sum annually from the time of his Settlement in that Capacity, & that no Legal or Rational objection has ever been or can be made to the payment thereof so long as the Said Law Remains in being & full force which he also Conceives to be the Case & consequently that the non payment thereof yearly but much more the delay of doing it for so long a time as it has been your Petitioners Right is manifestly a Great Injury to him.

That your Petitioner thinks he has the same Claim to the aforesaid Sum of money as he would have had to any Real Estate Granted by the Same Authority which is no more weaken'd because not paid as it became due than in the case of a Real Estate because one that has no Right Keeps the Possession a few years which no man would pretend to, And that Denying a due Compliance with the acts of the Governm^{t} is not only a Breach of Public Faith, but of very ill Example to those who are the subjects of the Good & wholesome Laws of the Province.

That as your Petitioner in his Settlement had some Regard to the aforesaid grant it has been a Considerable Disappointment to him that it has not been punctually complied with as every Gentleman upon the least attention to the Circumstances of the said place must needs allow.

Wherefore your Petition^{r} most humbly Prays that Effectual Provision may now be made for the payment of what is in arrearage & due to him agreeable to the aforesaid Grant, & for the due & Seasonable payment thereof for the future, and your Petitioner as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Jno Blunt.

March 1741

In the House of Representatives March the 10th 1741–2
The within Petition Read and Voted that the Petitioner be heard on Thursday next at three of the Clock in the afternoon

James Jeffry Clr. Ass^{m}

In Coun. March 11th 1741–2
Be forenoon
Read and Concurred
Richd Waldron sec.

Same day A: M: assented to B. Wentworth

An acco^{t} of the Persons y^{t} Voted at the Election of Representatives

for the Town of New Castle and Parrish of Rye att New Castle on the 2nd Day of Janry 1748 wth the Petitn annexd to this Referd too as Persons who Ware not Qualify'd to Vote in Said Choice and are as Followeth Viz:

Jno Randall
Jno Simpson
George ——— ?
Wm Neele
Saml Yetton
Saml Clark
Saml Card
Jno Card Junr
Edwd Card
Henry Tredick
Andw Mace
Nathl Batson
Mesheck or Benja Bell
Henry Dow
Francis Lock Junr
Saml Jinnins
Jos Jennins
Francis Jennins Junr
Jos Fuller
James Philbrick
Jno Rand

Petition of New Castle relating to a Lottery to build a Bridge.

To his Excellency the Governour of New Hampshire, The Honourable his Majestyes Council, and House of Representatives, in General Assembly conven'd.

We being appointed a Committee by the Inhabitants of the Town of New Castle in said Province, to Petition the said General assembly for the Priviledge of a Lottery in Order to enable us to build a Bridge over Little Harbour River as set forth in our Petition now before you, beg leave to offer these following Reasons for the same viz:

1. The only Barrier or Forte, by Sea, belonging to this Province is in New Castle, or on the Island called great Island, and the only Place by Sea, which is in danger of being Attack'd by a foreign Enemy.

2. We the Inhabitants of said Island, ordinarily, have not more than Men enough to take care of our wives and Children, and to convey them to a Place of Safety, in case of a Sudden Invasion.

3. It will be really Necessary for the Safety of this Province, more Especially for the Towns adjacent to said Island, That we be so accommodated as that a Suficient number of men from the main may with speed and Conveniency, come to us for our defence and safety, in case we are suddenly invaded by a foreign Enemy.

4. We have not a sufficient number of Boats neither can we Expect that the Province will at their charge Provide and Keep in repair such a Number as may be Necessary to convey so many men to us as we shall need, in Case we are Distressed by an Enemy. Therefore

5. It is absolutely necessary that a Bridge be built over Little-

Harbour-River from Saunders Point on the Main to said Island.

And then

2. With regard to us the Inhabitants of said New Castle or great Island, We would observe, The flourishing and Prosperous State of any Town in a Province more Especially of a Barrier-Town, is for the good and wealfair of the whole Community.

3. Altho' said Island is a Barrier Town, yet, we, the Inhabitants, are but in low Circumstances considering our Long Standing.

4. The only way which we can think of at Present to retrieve our Circumstances, and to Enable us the better to bear a Part in the Defence and Support of the Government, is that we may have a free and Open Communication with the Inhabitants on the Main

5. And this, appears to us, can only be effected by building a Bridge over said River, and then the Inhabitants on the Main can bring and sell to us the Necessaries of Life, which will save us a great deal of time and expence; and which must if rightly improved by us increase our wealth and strength, and be no ways detrimental to our Neighbors.

Therefore for the Reasons above said with what we have suggested in our Petition now before you we Earnestly desire that the Prayer thereof may be Granted.

N. Sargent, Jo^{s} Frost } Committee for the Inhabitants of New Castle.

New Castle April ye 25th 1757.

New Castle Petition for a Lottery to build a bridge.

Province of N. Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain General Govenour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province aforesaid, The Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives for said Province.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly *sheweth*,

Whereas your Petitioners for many years past have been great sufferers for want of a better Conveniency of passing from the great Island to the Continent and at some seasons of the year it is almost if not quite impracticable to pass to the Main and so for the People on the Main to come to us which is the reason why the Country People bring not to us the Necessaries of Life to Vend as otherwise they would do and our poorer

Families and Widdows who are not able to go abroad to provide for themselves are sometimes thereby brought into the greatest Straits and difficulties.

And inasmuch as the only Fortification of this Province by sea is and ever will be for anything we can discern on said Island, Therefore it is highly necessary for the safety of this Province as well as for the Inhabitants of said Island that a Bridge be Built across the River called Little Harbour River to the Main so that help with Speed and Conveniency may come to us in Case of an Invasion by a Foreign Enemy which in time of War we have reason to fear may be our unhappy Case, and also that our Wives and Children and others who are unable to Endure the fatigues of War may with greater Conveniency and Speed, Retreat to some place of safety.

Therefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that your Excellency with your Honours would consider our Petition and the Reasonableness of our Requests and grant us the Priviledge of a Lottery in order to raise money to build a Bridge over said River.

Richard Yeaton
Allcock Stevens
Benjamin Bell
Henry Langmaid
Peter Grant
Robbart Neall
John Randle
William Mordantt
Nat Sargent Junr
Abraham Trefethen
Jos Frost
Stephen Chase
Wm Branscombe
Samuel Sheafe
Stephen Barton
Meshach Bell
William Naal
Nathl Batson
John Neal

Richd Kenney
William Trefethen
Robert White
Joshua Chase
Jno Blunt
Wm Blunt
Paul Randall
Saml Jackson
Nathaniel Lear
Robert Seldon
James Randall
William Tucker
Daniel Moulton Junr
Joseph Sargent
Christopher Prichard
Shadrach Bell
Benjamin Meloon his hand
Solomon White.

In Council Febry 23, 1757
read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly
Theor Atkinson Secy.

Province of New Hamp } In the House of Representatives Febr 26th 1757 This Petition having been read

Resolved That the Petitioners be heard thereon the second day of the setting of the General Assembly next after the first Day of April next & that the Petitioners at their own Cost & charge Cause the Substance of said Petition with this order of Court to be advertized In the New Hampshire Gazette four weeks successively that any person or persons may appear if they please & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted.

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurrd
Theod Atkinson Secy.

NEW DURHAM.

[Incorporated 17 Dec. 1762. See Kingswood. ED.]

At a public meeting of the Proprietors of New Durham in the Province of New Hampshire legally notified, holden at the meeting house at Durham falls in s^d province on monday the 30th day of Decemb^r 1765 at 2 o'clock P. M. then & there the s^d proprietors made choice of Maj^r Thomas Tash and Capt. Thomas Chesle as a Committee to apply to the general Court of s^d Province to see if s^d Court will pass an act to Impower the s^d Proprietors to sell so much of the land of the delinquent proprietors as shall pay their proportion of the charges to be defrayed by s^d propriety

Thos Tash prop^rs Clark

A true Coppy

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, the Honourable Councel and Representatives of Said Province.

The Humble Petition of Thomas Tash and Thomas Cheslee. In Behalf of the Proprietors of New Durham *Sheweth*

That Whereas a Great Number of the Proprietors of said New Durham have been Delinquent in paying their proportion of the Necessary Charges that have already arisin on account of the Settlement of Said Town, and it is highly probable s^d Delinquents will be as unwilling to pay any Necessary Charge that may hereafter arise; Therefore the Burden must Consequently Lay on such of said propriety as are most willing to promote said Town and the Settlement thereof.

We therefore most Humbly Shewe, That at a Legal Meeting of Said proprietors held on the 30th Day of December A. D. 1765 it was Voted that we the said Thomas Tash & Thomas Chesley should be a Committee to apply to your Excellency and your honours, in order to obtain an act to Impower the said proprietors or their Collectors to Sell the Rights of Said Delinquent proprietors or Such a Part thereof as shall be Sufficient to pay their Respective proportions of Such Necessary Charges.

Your Petitioners Earnestly hope your Excellency and Honours will Take our prayer into your wise Consideration and procure Such a Remedy as your Excellency & Honours in your Great wisdom Shall think proper, and your petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray.

THOM^S TASH
THOM^S CHESLE

New Durham September 10th 1767

Province of } In the House of Representatives Sepr 12th 1767
New Hamp^{re} } The within Petition being Considered and it appearing Reasonable to grant Relief in such Cases
Voted That the Petitioners have Liberty to Bring in a Bill for the Purpose within mentioned

M. Weare, Cl^{r}

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurr'd
T. Atkinson Jun Sec^{y}

NEWMARKET.

Papers relating to Newmarket & Newmarket Bridge.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Governour and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesties province of New Hampshire in New england in America and the Honourable His Majesties Council and the Honourable the House of Representatives in General Court Convend.

We the Subscribers Conceiving it will be for the great advantage of this province in general as well as for our Perticler Interest & for the Benefit of the inhabitants of the Several towns to which we respectively belong that there Should be a Bridge over the River which devides Suretham & New Market where the Ferry is Now Kept or a little higher up the River at the place cald the New field do humbly petition this honourable Cort for license to Build a Strong & Substantial Bri'ge thereon sufficient for teams to Pass & Repass laden, and if your Excellency and Honours will vouchsafe to take the matter under your wise Consideration and permit us to offer to your wise Consideration the Resons Inducing us to offer this our petition we doubt not you will Readily grant us the license for which we hereby make Humble Request, By which grant you will greatly oblidge your most humble Supplicants the inhabitants of this province of New hampshire as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray. we the Subscribers Sign with that reserve that s^{d} bridge be no hendrance to vesels & Rafts of any kind Passing & Repassing up & down S^{d} River

November 21st 1746

Richard Calley
Eforom Levett
Stephen Thusen
Samuel Levett
Jonathan Fifield
John Levett
Samuel Levett
John Clark
Solmon Cotton
John Thusten
Benjamin Cotton
Efrom Greean
Thomas Vesey
William Bruce of Durham

Moses Thriston
Sam[l] Clark
William Davis
Walter Wiggins
Eliphalet Wiggins
John Wille Jun[r]
Joshua Hill
Samuel Piper
Tarfien ? Wiggin
David Haneford
James Daves
Thomas Brier
Daniel Mason Jr
John Barker
John Daves
Thomas Wiggin Jr.
Henry Wiggin
Josiah Piper
Jonathan Piper
William Borley Jun[r]
Richard Crockett
Thomas Wiggin
John Wiggin
William French
Andrew French
Bradstreet French
William French Jun[r]
Thomas French
Samuel Wiggin
Eliphalet Wiggin
William Moores

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and the Honourable His Majesties Council and the House of Representatives for Said Province.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Nottingham &c Humbly *Sheweth*

That this and Several other Towns in this Province are exposed to Great Difficulties being Seperated from the Metropolis and the Main Body of the Settled Part of this Province by a narrow River Running between Stratham and New Market which Lais us under a Necessity to travel many miles Round the Head or Else Cross said River at a Ferry which is often times Not Less Difficult and at Certain Seasons of the year is altogether Impracticable and is always so for Carte and Teams.

We therefore Conceiving that it will be for the Great Advantage of this Province in General as well as for our Particular Interest and for the Benefit of the Several Towns Scituated near said River that there Should be a Bridge over said River where the Ferry is kept or a Little Higher up at the Place Commonle Called the New Field Do Humbly Petition your Excellency and Honours that there may be a Licence for a Good Substantial Bridge there Sufficient for Teams to Pass over Loaded. The many Great advantages which would accrue to the Publick by such a Bridge will we Doubt not Enduce this Hon[b.e] Court to Grant us the Priviledge for which we hereby humbly make Request which will Greatly oblige your most Humble Supplicants who Shall as in Duty Bound Ever Pray &c:

Nottingham Nov. 21, 1746.

Abraham Rowell
Daniel Elkins
Ebenezer Dow
John Pormort
Thomas Ford
his
William X Kennison
mark
John Mill
John Bartlett
Joseph Cally
Jon[a] Longfellow
James Bean
Edward Bean Jun[r]
Jonathan Norris
David Lawrens
James Whidden
Jonathan Crosbie
Nathan Pilsbery
James Morrison
his
David X Morrison
mark
Joseph Beverlin
his
Andrew X Simpson
mark
Nathaniel Goodhue
John M'Cries
John M'Cries Jun[r]
Frances Harvey
John McCleary
Israel Bartlett
his
William X Morrison
mark
James Maxweel
Rob[t] Harvey
Matthew Neley
John Harvey
Thomas Harvey
Edward Bean
Simon Baird
John Redman

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor and Captain general in Chief in and over his majestys Province of New hampshire and to his majestys Council and the honourable house of Representatives in general Court Convened.

We the subscribers Conceiving it will be for the great advantage of this Province in general as well as for our own particular Interest and for the benefit of the Inhabitants of the Several Towns to which we respectively belong that there should be a bridge over the river which Divides Stratham and New Market where the ferry is now kept or a little higher up the river at the Place Called the New field Do humbly Petition this honourable Court for License to build a Strong and Substantial bridge there Sufficient for Teams to pass and repass Laden and if you will Vouchsafe to take the matter under your Consideration and permit us to offer to your Consideration the reasons Inducing us to offer this our petition we doubt not you will readily grant us the Licence for which we hereby make humble request by which grant you will greatly Oblige your most humble Supplicants, the Inhabitants as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated Nov[r] 21st 1746

Rob[t] Smart
Sam[l] Miles
Jon[a] Colkit
Jon[a] Colkit Jun[r]
Jon[a] Colkit
Joseph Chapman
Walter Neel
Sam[l] Neel
Rich[d] Clark
Caleb Clark

David Hanes
Jo^{n} Jedkins
Josiah Persons
Thos Young Sr.
Charles Smart
Joseph Smart
John Burley
Jam^{s} Burley
Jam^{s} Burley Junr
Josiah Burley
Joseph Burley
Isaac Maston
Andrew Burley
Wm Burley
Edward Hilton
Josiah Hilton
Wentworth Hilton
Fitz Wm Sergant
John Bennet
Joseph Burley Jun.
Jo^{n} Elice
Nathl Piper
Peter Folsom
Robt Pike
Charles Hilton
Thom^{s} Gilman
Robt Barber
Saml Sinkler
John Sanborn
Nathl Pees
Saml Stevens
Jon^{a} Bachler
Ezekiel Sanborn
Joseph Sinklar
Wm Crocket
Jon^{a} Robinson
Joseph Robinson
Joseph Gilman Jr.
Thom^{s} Sinkler
Const^{e} Gilman
Joshua Sanborn
Tim^{o} Gilman
Joseph Gliden
Abner Cofin
Nathan Folsom
John Meder
Ichabod Whidden
Thom^{s} Bennet
James Goodwin
Jam^{s} Goodwin Jun.
Saml Rolins
Jam^{s} Rolins
Saml Brecket
Hope Cheswill
Saml Doe
Israel Folsom
John Kenneston
Francis Durgan
Wm Durgan
James Kenneston
Saml Dooly
Thom^{s} Packer
Nicholas Doe
Daniel Hilton
Jacob Burley
Samson Doe
Benj^{a} York
Benj^{a} York Jun.
Thom^{s} Young
Joseph Jedkins
Thom^{s} York
John Neel
Abnez^{r} Neel
Nathan Presby
Ephraim Sanborn
Jacob Tilton
John Wedgewood
John Pender
John Fose
Edward Fose
David Litefoot
Daniel Ames
Simon Ames
David Ames
Jacob Ames
Joseph Hall
Edward Hall
Arthur Slade
James Maston
Nathl Ames
Robt Perkins
Jo^{n} Miles
Benj^{a} Smart
Giles Burley
Wm Perkans
Jon^{a} Hilton
Philip Herris
Jo^{n} Hilton
Tim^{o} Emerson
Bartes Metoon
Joseph Hilton
Joseph Young
Joseph Midcalf
John Birgan
Richd Matoon
Benj^{a} Thomson
John Hersey
James Hersey
John Perkans
John Perkans Junr
John Folsom
Andrew Folsom
Wm Folsom
Jo^{n} Barber
John Barber Junr
Andrew Wiggan

Joseph Wiggan
Edward Fose
Benj[a] Fose
Sam[l] Chapman
John Talor
Jo[n] Palmer
Groth. Palmer
Ephraim Folsom
Ephraim Folsom Jr.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in over His Majestys province of new hampshier in new England in America and the Honorable His majestys Council & the Honorable House of Representatives in Court Convened.

We the Subscribers Conceiving it will be for the Great advantag of this province in general as well as for our one Perticlar Intreest & for the Benefit of the Inhabitants of the Several Towns to which we respectively belong that there should be a Bridg over the river which divides Stratham and new market where the Ferry is now Kept or a little higher up the river at the place called the new field wee do humbly Petition this honorable Court for Leicence to Build a Strong & Substantile Bridg sufficient for tams to pass & Repase, to take the matter under your Consideration & permit us to offer to your Consideration the resons Inducing us to offer this our petition, we Doubt not you will readiely Grant us the Licence for which we hearby make humble Request by which Grant you will Greatly oblige your most humble supplicats, the Inhabitants as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray.

Joshua Brackett
John Brackett
Nathaniel Brackett
James Urin
Joseph Jones
Joseph Melune
Joseph Melune Jun.
Henery Melune
Enoch Clark
Ebenezer Cates
James Cates
Jonathan Dockem
Jonathan Dockem Jun.
John Dockem
Bengman Dockem
Robert Rolens
James Bracket
Daniel Lunt
Joseph Berry
William Stevens
Joseph Haines
John Haines
William Haines
James Johnson
Anthony Pickrein
Nath[l] Doe
Nath[l] Grow
Abithar Sanborn
John Hoag Jun[r]
Nathaniel rite White
Samuel Haines
Thomas Ains
Charley ? Johnson
Jonathan Thomas
Stephen Gilman
Anthony Pickerin
Abner Haines
Sam[l] Nutter
Pitman Colbath
James Berry
William Samson
Robart Bryen
John Allen
Daniel Doues
John Johnson

In Council December the 1746
read & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble House togeather with the three other Petitions for the same affair here unto annexed
Theo^d^ Atkinson Sec^y^

Prov of New Hamp^re^ } In the House of Representatives Dec 6th 1746

Voted That the within Petitioners be heard on their Petition ye second Day of y^s^ setting of ye Genl Assembly after ye seventeenth Day of Jan. next & that ye Petitioners at their own expence advertise ye publick three Weeks successively between this Day & ye aforesaid 17th of Janu^y^ (in ye Postboy & Evening Post News Papers so called) of ye Tenor of ye Prayer of said Petitions (Viz) that there may Liberty be granted for Building a good sufficient Draw Bridge over Exeter River at Wiggin's Ferry so called or at ye New Field at y^s^ proper Cost & charge of ye Petitioners that any or every one may have opportunity to shew Cause if any they have why ye Prayer of s^d^ Petitions should not be granted.

D. Peirce Cl^r^

In Council December 7th 1746
read & Concurr'd
Theodore Atkinson Sec^y^

December 11th 1746
Assented to
B. WENTWORTH

Where as Sum of the Inhabitence of Several townes within this Provence have Petitioned the Genl Court to Grant Liberty for the bulding of a bridge over Exeter River Between Stratham and New market and the Genl Court having apointed a Day for the hearing of s^d^ Petitioners, Leberty being Given for all persons to apear that are against said Bredge being bult to Shew ther Resons against the same.

At a Leagal parish meeting held at Brintwood on Monday the 16th Day of March 1747 at the hous of Nicolas Gorden in s^d^ parish Voted that there be no bredge bult between Stratham and Newmarkit by Reson we apprehend it will be a Great Dammeag both to the trade and fishere

Copy Exam'd
Biley Hardie parish Clarck

May ye 18th 1747.

Province of New Hamp^re^ } In Pursuance of a vote of General Assembly of ye 4 Instant We the Committee Have been and Viewed the places as mentioned in a petition for building a Sufficient Draw bridge over the River between new market and Stratham and we have unanemusley agreed that the bridge be built over said River to begin to be built about twenty foote below a white Pine tree Standing about the ferry place on Wigginses land and so to Run as straight over or across said River to Robert Smarts land as it can be built for Conveniency of Setting Said bridge. The Distance between the Peers under the Draw bridge to be twenty six foote and the Distance between the Pears for Rafts and other Necessary to be forty or fifty foot and the tops of the Caps between these vacancies to be Seven foot above high water mark in a middling tide the width of the aforesaid bridge to be Eighteen foote wide between The rails of s^d^ bridge from end to end.

This is our Report In this affair of said Bridge

Saml Smith
John Downing
Richard Jenness } Committee
Jonathan Chase
Joseph Wadleigh

In Council May 27, 1747
The above report read & ordered to be sent to the Honble House
Theo^de Atkinson sec.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 29th May 1747
Voted That ye within Report be received & approved with ye following amendments, that ye Draw Part of s^d Bridge be twenty eight feet wide & ye Passage for Rafts forty five feet wide that the Petitioners build ye Bridge Keep it in Repair & procure convenient Ways to & from ye Bridge & all at their own expence.

D. Peirce Clr.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Secundi magnæ Britanniæ Franciæ & Hiberniæ Vicessimo.

An Act for Erecting and maintaining a Bridge over the River at New Market.

Whereas Many of the Inhabitants of New Market Stratham and other Places within this Province have Petitioned the General Assembly Representing that the Passing over the ferry at New Market is attended with Great Difficulty for a Considerable part of the year by Reason of the frost, That a Bridge over the River there would be of Great use to those Places and all the Neighboring Towns And Praying that they might have Liberty to Erect a Bridge there accordingly which they would do at their own Cost. Which Petition having Been Considered and it appearing that a Good Bridge at the Said Place will be of General Service and Conveniency:

Be it therefore Enacted By His Excellency the Governor Council and Representatives in General Assembly Convened and by the Authority of the Same, That the Petitioners aforesaid and Such others as shall join with them therein shall have Liberty to Erect and Build a Good Strong and Convenient Bridge over the River at New Market and Stratham to run from about Twenty foot below a white pine Tree Standing a Little way above the Ferry place on the Land of Andrew Wiggin strait a Cross the River to the Land of Robert Smart on New Market Side on the following Terms and Directions that is to say that it Run as Strait a Cross the River from and to the Place aforesaid as it may be for the Conveniency of Setting and Laying the foundation thereof in the River, that the Said Bridge be Built on Peers set at Convenient Distance form'd in the Best manner for passage Between them that a Passage for Vessels Gundelos Rafts and other water Carriage be Left where the Deepest water is of forty five feet wide Between the Peers, that a part of the said Bridge be made to Draw in the most Convenient manner twenty eight feet wide for the Passage of Vessels That the said bridge be built with Rails on the Top on Each Side and to be eigh teen feet wide between the Rails that the Tops of the Caps between the Vacancies be seven feet above high Water in a Middleing Tide and that all the said Bridge be Built in a strong workmanlike manner at the Cost of the Petitioners and others as aforesaid and so maintained and Kept in Repair and that they Procure and get Laid out all such Convenient Ways and Passages to and from Said Bridge as shall be wanting and Necessary and that the Draw Part of sad Bridge be made so that it may Conveniently be Drawn by two men.

Province of } In the House of Representatives 3d June 1747
New Hampr } The foregoing Bill having been Read three Times
Voted That it pass to be enacted.
John Sanborn Speaker pro Tempore

In Council June the 4th 1747
The foregoing Bill Read three Times and past to be enacted.
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Eodem Die
I assent to the enacting this Bill
B. WENTWORTH

Copy Examined
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Exeter's Answers to Stratham and New Market's Petition for a Bridge.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth
New Hampshire } Esqr Captain-Generall, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, To the Honble his Majesty's Councill And house of Representatives Convened in Generall Assembly.

Humbly *Shews*

The Freeholders & Inhabitants of Exeter by their Agents the Subscribers hereof That whereas Notice hath lately been given in the Publick Prints That the Towns of Newmarket Stratham & Towns Adjacent have Petitioned your Excellency and this Honble Court Praying Liberty to Build a Strong Substantiall Draw Bridge over the river that Divides said Stratham and New Market at the Ferry place in Said Stratham or a Little above, And your Excellency & honrs having ordered said Petitioners a hearing of their Petitions on the Second day of the Sitting of this Court after the Seventeenth day of January then next and that said Petitioners give Public notice Thereof.

Whereupon we the Subscribers agents as aforesaid on behalf of our Constituants as well as for our Selves Most Humbly Crave Leave to offer the Following reasons why the Prayer of said Petitions Should not be Granted, (Viz :)

1st For that the building such a Bridge would in a Great measure Stop the Course of the Fish Especially the Bass which Providence has hitherto yearly supplyd us with great Quantitys of to the Great Support of our selves and Towns above us, and many Poor Familys, if the Course of the Fish be Stopped will be Likely thereby to be Great sufferers.

2dly For that whereas the said river having been free Ever since The settling the Town of Exeter (upwards of one hundred years) for the passing and repassing of Vessels from

hence to Portsmouth & Boston and other Ports, and there being Generally water sufficient for the passing and repassing of any Vessell of one hundred Tons Loaden whereby this Town as well as the Towns above it have reaped great advantages By means of Transporting their Lumber and by having return'd to them by the same Vessels, The Provisions and Necessaries for the Support of Life & for Commerce and Trade with Each other; Which the building of the aforesaid bridge would greatly hurt, if not Totally Stop, & also Prevent Carrying on the building of Vessells in the Town of Exeter which they have as Just a right to do as any other Towns in the Province.

3dly For that the Free use and Priviledge of That river to the head thereof was the Principal reason and Cause of Peoples settling so far into the Country and Defending their Settlements in such Dangerous & Difficult times as have been since the Settlement of the Same and was also an Incouragement to the Inhabitants of Kingston and other Towns to Settle Farther into the Country they hopeing to Enjoy the Benefit of Transporting their Lumber in this river without such an Incumbrance as the Proposed bridge would be. And now if the Prayer of the Petition should be granted Those invaluable Priviledges which the respondents have so Long Enjoyed and so highly Prised (more than any other part of their Estates) would in a great measure if not Totally be cutt off and would be more Damage to the Town of Exeter and other Towns above it Than to Maintain men and Boats forever to carry over the Petitioners and Every thing they have as often as they please to remove, and Cannot be of such Service to the Petitioners as to Equal the Damage that would be consequent upon it. Neither would the Petitioners themselves be willing that any such Incumbrance should be made upon the river below their Landing places to prevent the Free passage of Vessels to them.

Neither is it likely if Possible for the Petitioners to make and maintain & Duly attend Such a Bridge in such manner as to Lett all Vessells pass and repass in said river For Vessels going up & Down swiftly with a strong tide cannot come to anchor and wait for any Persons to come and open the Passage for them without great Difficulty & Danger and Damage more than can be at Present Discerned.

4^{thly} For that the building the aforesaid Bridge would be a great Impediment to the Conveying Down to Portsmouth the Mast Trees which are Yearly Procured in & brought to the Town of Exeter for his Majestys use, and would also make it very Dangerous to pass with Vessells rafts & Gundelows in the Narrow Passage of Thirty foot. For the Straitening of the river must of Consequence Cause the Current to run very

swift and Rapid and thereby Greatly Endanger the Lives of the People as well as the Loss of their Vessels Lumber and Gundelows.

5^{ly} We humbly Conceive that the Granting the Prayer of the Petition by this hon^{ble} Court will not only be a Depriving of our Constituants as well as the Towns above us, and others, of their Lawfull right & Priviledge but also be a Leading Example for other Injuries of the like nature and be a much Greater Injury to the Province in Generall Than Benefitt to the Petitioners or others, in That it would cause the People of this Town and the Towns above us Instead of Transporting their Lumber to Portsmouth to Convey the Same to Haverhill and Newbury and thereby very greatly obstruct the Trade of this Province.

We do therefore Humbly Intreat That your Excellency & this Honble Court will duely Consider the foregoing reasons and what we may Further Crave Leave to offer why the Prayer of the said Petitions should not be Granted Considering the many bad Consequences it might be attended with, and humbly hope and Desire That Your Excellency and hon^{rs} will in your great wisdom Prevent the Same by not Granting the Prayer of said Petition.

EZEKIEL GILMAN
DANIEL GILMAN
NICH^{l} PERRYMAN

Jedediah Philbrick Agent for and in behalf of the Town of Kingston in said Province humbly craves Leave to present the foregoing answers or reasons made in behalf of ye Town of Exeter as answers for and in behalf of said Town of Kingston it being their Grievances & Dangers truely Expressed & for ye same reasons pray that the Prayer of the Petition for building a Bridge over ye river betwixt Stratham & New Market may not be Granted

Jed Philbrick

At a Meeting of the free holders & Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter holden at the Town house in s^{d} Town Jany 19th 1746–7 Whereas notice hath been Given in the publick prints that New Market Stratham & several of the adjacent Towns have petition'd the Genl Court of this Province for Liberty to build a bridge Crost the River that parts Newmarket & Stratham at the ferry or a Little above & that the s^{d} Petitioners are to be heard on s^{d} petition on the Second Day of s^{d} Courts next Setting & those that are ag^{t} the Prayer of s^{d} Petitions being Granted are in s^{d} Prints notifyed to appear to Show Cause ag^{t} the Granting the Prayer of s^{d} Petitions,

Voted Mr Nich^{o} Perryman Maj^{r} Ezekel Gilman & Capt Daniel Gilman be agents that they or Either of them appear in behalf of the Town to Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petitions should not be Granted.

A true Copy

Zebulon Giddings Townclerk

Reply to Exeter's Objections.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. Genl Govr & Command^{r} in Chief the Hon^{bl}^{e} His Majestys Council & House of Represen^{ves} for the Prov^{e} of New Hamp^{re}.

The Reply of the Petitioners for a Bridge over the River at New Market to the Objections made by the agents of the Town of Exeter.

1st It is objected a bridge would stop the course of the fish &c. This is w^{t} the objectors cannot prove, it is Gratis dictum, nor does it carry probability with it that an open Bridge as this is proposed to be, should stop the passage of Fish only by having a few Piers standing in the River, it may with almost Equal truth be said, that ships & Vessels in the River Stop the Course of the fish, & so there should none of them be Suffer'd to pass besides the advantage made by fishing at the head of the River is too Inconsiderable to be put in the Scale against the advantage of such a bridge.

2 their second Objection supposes that the building this bridge would prevent all trade &c. it is not fair to suppose the case other ways than it Really is, or will be. An open Bridge will not prevent trade, passing & Repassing with Vessels &c. a bridge may be so Contrived as to be very little Impediment to that. Some Inconveniencys allways attend the building of Bridges, and if none was to be built but only where there should be no Inconveniency attending there will never be another built & if that had been the Rule of judging concerning those that have been done, there never would have been one made over a River But in Such a Case the Greater Public Benefit is to have the Preference if the building the bridge will serve 100 People in the Course of a year to the Same Degree it disserves or prejudices 99 the Bridge ought to be built, that a bridge can be so made as to be very little Damage to the passage on the River, we need only to look about us, & see what has been done in other places. Vessels of near 100 Ton pass & Repass London bridge (as well as many other places) tho' they are forced to strike their Masts, yet the trouble was not tho't Equal to the advantage of the Bridge. As to the Lumber Trade tis well Known it Decreases every year at Exeter. Lumber bro't out of the Conntry is carry'd to other places more than to Exeter, & if this Bridge is built more will come over it or to it, in one year than come down the River from Exeter in three.

3 their third objection is but little different from the 2^{d} it supposes that there could be no passing the Bridge, without Insuperable difficulties, which is only beging the Question, the Petitioners think a Bridge may be so contrived as to be no other Impediment in passing but only a few Minutes time & a

little care and they have the Examples of other places & People to support them in their Opinion, as to what they say about the Inducem^{t} to Settle at Exeter it is a great mistake for they settled there as soon as at Portsm^{o} for the sake of the falls for Grist Mills & not for the Sake of transporting Lumber to Portsm^{o} when every man there might cut it at his own door or within a few Rods of the River.

4th their 4th objection is still the Same only to make it a little more formidable, the Mast Trees are bro't in & His Majestys name made use of, and is it more difficult for a Mast tree to Swim under a Bridge than for a Gundeloo of wood or a Raft of Boards, what may easily pass as the bridge may be contrived. But how many mast trees are bro't to the head of Exeter River in a year, & those that are might with as Little Difficulty be hal'd below this Bridge & would be so was the bridge erected, but this objection was made only to fright People with those Potent words *his Majesty's use*, and to carry a more frightful idea they Suggest the Lives of the People would be in danger which is nothing but suggestions.

5 The fifth Objection Relates to the depriving People of their Privilege, this objection operates Equally in all other cases of this nature & if attended to, no bridge had ever been built nor tyde mills, nor any works upon Rivers which makes the passage more difficult for they are always some disadvantage to those whose Estates lay above such works, and 'tis almost impossible but that every Public work is a prejudice to Particular Persons, the Repair of a Bridge that the Public maintains, is a prejudice to the Owners of the Lands adjoining & yet it shall be done & the Law will give them no Remedy Because Private Right must give way to the Public advantage, and if it is considered what a great advantage this Bridge must be to two thirds of the People in the four old Towns, & all the new settlem^{ts} above New Market Durham Dover &c. both in peace & war what is the little difficulty of the trading part of Exeter & those concerned with them in comparison of the advantages of such a bridge which are so plain they need not be mentioned the wisdom of all well ordered Governments have Esteemed such Buildings a Great advantage & if it be fact that more of the vessels which fetch Lumber from Exeter Stop at the place proposed for this bridge & Raft it down which may be easily prov'd, this Lessens the Difficulty to those that object, as to many of the People brot in as objectors it is plain they proceed only on this principle that it will be some charge to them as they fear, upon the whole it is Humbly Submitted whether the advantages will not abundantly over Balance the supposed disadvantages, by

ISRAEL GILMAN } In behalf of himself & Petitioners

Petition of Inhabitants of Stratham against the bridge.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief In and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, To the Hon[ble] his Majesties Councill & house of Representatives Convened in Generall Assembly.

Humbly *Sheweth* the Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Stratham in Said Province

That Whereas we have Lately heard That a Number of Persons have Petitioned This Hon[ble] Court for Liberty to build a Bridge over the river at or near the Ferry place in Stratham and New Market, We Humbly Conceive that the building of such a Bridge would Greatly obstruct the Trade and Fishery of this Province in Generall as well as Damnify many Poor People in their Private Interests. Wherefore we humbly Pray that Your Excellency & Hon[rs] will not Grant the Prayer of the said Petition.

Richard Sinkler
Joseph Smith
Richard Palmer
John Cole
Benja Norris
Jonathan Sibley
Thomas Chase
John Robinson
Stephen Leavitt
William Tomson
James Leavitt
Joshua Rowlings
Joseph Rawlings
Bradstreet Wiggin
John Mead
John Honneford
Edward Mason
Jonathan Cldrk Jun.

Benjamin Palmer
Joseph Palmer
Owen Rennles
Thomas Rennles
Jonathan Clark senior
James Robinson
David Stevens
Matthew Tomson
Matthew Tomson Senior
William Mead
John Clark
Joseph Clark
Joseph Hoit
Joseph Hoit Jr.
John Wadleigh
William Chase
Joseph Smith
John Speed

Petition of Inhabitants of Kensington against the bridge.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Capt[n] Gen[ll] Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj[ties] Province of New Hampshire, To the hon[ble] his maj[ties] Council and Representatives in gen[ll] Assembly Convened.

Humbly *Shew* the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Parish of Kensington in s[d] Province That we having heard of Petitions being preferred to your Excellency and hon[rs] for building a bridge Cross the river at or near Stratham & New

Market ferry, the building whereof we humbly apprehend will greatly obstruct the trade and fishery of this Province as also deprive many of his Majesties Loyal Subjects of their Just rights and Priviledges.

Wherefore we most humbly pray your Excellency and Hon^{rs} that the prayer of s^{d} Petition may not be Granted.

Jeremiah Fogg
Abraham Baclder
Hezekiah Swain
Simon Batchelder
Benjamin Prescutt
Nathanael Prescutt
Abraham Haskell
Abraham Moulton
Jethro Bachelder
David James
John Shearburne
Benjamin Row
Caleb Shaw
Jonathan Huchinson
Johnson Hoshison
Timothy Hoshison
John Chapman ?
Moses Blake Junr
Jonathan Pulsifer
Isaac Healmes?

Thomas Knolteon
Samuel Bean
Isaiah Green
Philemon Blake
Jeremiah Green
Benjamin Cram
Joseph Pike
Jeremiah Easman
Ezekiel Worthen
Jonathan Cram
Nehemiah Brown

George Conner
Moses Bleak
Joseph Tilton
Robert Row
Abraham Samborn
Joseph Wadleigh
John Been
Joseph Wadleigh jun.
Jonathan Prescutt
Jonathan Fellows
Samuel Clifford
Isaac Fellows Jun.
Abner Fellows
James Prescutt
Henery Sanborn
Benjamin Page
Jeremiah Fellows
Samuel Blake Jun.
Joseph Chase Hilyard
Shurborn Tilton
James Fogg
Moses Samborn
Benjamin James
Israel James
John Page
Jonathan Garland
Joshua Gilman
Stephen Hobs
Noah Hobs
Nathl Healey
Jeremiah Samborn
Edward Black

Petition of Inhabitants of Hampton falls against the bridge.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of New hampshire and to the hon^{ble} his Maj^{ties} Council and Representatives in Genl Court assembled.

Humbly *Sheweth*

the Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of Hampton falls in s^{d} Province that having heard or seen in the Newspaper that Petitions have been preferred to your Excellency and Hon^{rs} for building a bridge Cross the River at or near Stratham

& Newmarket ferry and we Considering the many Ill consequences of building Such a bridge by obstructing the trade and fishery of the Province in general and also the depriving of many of their Just rights & priviledges—We Humbly pray that your Excellency and Hon^{rs} will dismiss the s^{d} Petitions and not grant them.

Amos Leavitt	Charles Stuard
Abner Sanborn	Enoch Barker
John Green	Jonathan Brown
Bradbury Green	Benjamin Shaw
Jonathan Chase	John French
Saml Shaw	Wm Stickney
Thomas Browu	Saml Melcher
John George	Samuell Melcher Junr
Benjamin Sanborn	Jeames Moulton
Ralph Butler	Richard Moulton
Benjamin Moulton	Benja Moulton
Benjamin Cram	Jona Tilton
Daniel Brown	Nathan Tilton
John Brown	his
Saml Lane	Samll X Fifield
Matthew Morton	mark
Benjamin Swett	David Tilton
Joseph Bachelder	Nath Healey
John Batchelder	Samuel Tilton
Jotham Batchelder	Stephen Healey
Joseph Sanborn	Jacob Green
Edward Sargent	Jonathan Green
Ruben Samborn	Joseph Prescott
Reuben Sanborn Jr	Benjamin Prescut
Stephen Swain	Philemon Prescot
Jethro Tilton	Jeremiah Prescot
John Tilton	Joseph Sanborn 3d
Benjn Tilton	Benja Swett
James Prescott	Daniel Sanborn
John Brown	Josiah Batchelder
Jeremiah Benet	Ebnezer Prescott
Caleb Shaw	Nathan Sanborn

Petition of Inhabitants of Epping against the Bridge.

Province } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr
of New Hamp. } Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief In and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, To the Hon$^{bl\,e}$ his Majestys Council and house of Representatives Convened in Generall Assembly

Humbly *Shew*

The Subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Parish of Eppin in said Province That

Whereas we have heard that a Number of Persons have

Lately Petitioned this Honble Court for Liberty to build a Bridge over the river at or near the Ferry place in Stratham & Newmarket,

We Humbly Conceive That the building of said Bridge would be not only a great Damage to many poor people in their Private Interests, But would also be a Grievous obstruction to the Trade and Fishery of this Province in Generall.

Wherefore we humbly Pray that your Excellency & Hon^rs^ will not Grant the Prayer of said Petition.

John Marden
Edward Elkins
John Robinson
Jeremiah Elkins
Joel Judkins
Timothy Morgan
Jeremiah Prescot
Samuel Elkins
James Norris Junr
John Noris
Jonathan Gliden
William Eten
Joseph Norris
Moses Smart
Jediah Black
John Fulton
Obadiah Worth
Elexander Robrison
Wilyam Prescut
Joseph Gordon
John Dudley
Coffin Thing
Edward Thing
Beningmen Rolins
Daniel Grant
Benja Phillbrick
Jonathan Gilman Junr
Joseph Thing
Edward Stevens
John Drobson ?

Simon Garland
Moses Norris
Jnotham Norris
Daniel Homen
James Noris
Isrel Gilman
Nathan Hoit
Theophilus Wadleigh
Jonathan Rundlet
Israel Blake
Samuel Smith
Ithiel Clifford
Saml Connor
John Merridge
Josiah Noris
Abraham Folsom
Elias Smith
Ezekiel Brown
David Joy
John York
Abraham Brown
John Rowell
John Page
David Page
Jonathan Norris Junr
Jonathan Folsom
Thomas Burley
James Alexander
Abner Been
Jonathan Smith

Coyy of a vote against the building of a Bridge over Exeter River.

Province of New Hamp^r^ } At a Legal Town meeting held by the freeholders of Kingston in s^d^ Province March the third 1746–7

1^ly^ Major Eben^r^ Stevens was chosen modderator for that meeting

Voted unanimously that we are not willing that there should be any Bridge Built over Exeter River any where below the falls at Exeter Town.

Jedidiah Philbrick was chosen to Represent Said Town at the General Court to object against the Building the above said Bridge.

this is a true Copy taken out of Kingston Book of Records

Attest Jed. Philbrick Town Clerk

Vote of the Inhabitants of East Kingston against the bridge, and reasons for said vote.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Capt. Gen[l] & Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his majesties province of New Hamp[re], & to the Hon[ble] his majesties Council & House of Representatives in Gen[al] Court assembled.

The vote of East Kingston Concerning the Building a Bridge over Exeter River with some reasons therefor are most Humbled presented, as followeth viz:

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants & freeholders of the East Parish in Kingston held y[e] 10th day of march Anno dom 1746–7 voted that we are not willing there should be a Bridge Built over Exeter River, and that William Boynton Phineas Bachelder & Jeremy Webster are Chosen a Committee to draw up some reasons for the above s[d] vote.

A true Coppie,
Jeremy Webster Clerk

Which are as followeth viz: Wee humbly apprehend that If there should be a Bridge Built over s[d] River it would wholly stop the course of the fish up the same, & so deprive these towns of that benefit, and also,

That it would greatly obstruct the navigation of the River & so Consequently the trade of Exeter which is by far the nearest & most Convenient Market Town for us & the towns above us (that is in our own Government) which Town of Exeter is a very growing town, & gives Encouragement to these up-Country towns, to hope in great priviledges by it, which If this Bridge should be Built, it would so obstruct the trade of the River & so of Exeter that all our hopes of these things will be entirely quasht & so we must be obliged to Carry all our Provisions & all our lumber into the neighboring Government, which we Humbly apprehend will not only greatly hurt us in our Interests but also Exeter, & very nearly affect the whole Government & even Portsmouth itself in particular, and further we are humbly of the opinion, that however earnest many may now be to promote the Building of this Bridge, yet it may not be Long before they may see that the profit will not countervail the Cost, & then this may prove (should it be Granted) a strong foundation laid to bring it into a perpetual Provincial charge and so we pray that their Petition may not be Granted.

WILLIAM BOYNTON
PHINEAS BACHELDER
JEREMY WEBSTER
} In behalf of East Kingston

Kingston East Parish
March y[e] 31st day 1747

Prov of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 14 May 1747
Voted That the Petitioners have Liberty at their own Cost to build a Draw Bridge over s[d] River for y[e] Publick use, the Bridge to be built in y[e] most convenient manner y[t] may be for passing of Vessels Rafts or other things & at that Place that shall be tho't most convenient by a Committee to be sent for that Purpose & Maintain'd at y[e] Petitioners Cost said Com[tee] to go & view the Circumstances & make Report to y[e] Gen[l] Assembly as soon as may be, That Rich[d] Jenness Esqr Capt. Jonathan Chesley & Mr. Joseph Wadleigh of Kensington be the Committee to join such as may (be) appointed by y[e] Hon[le] Council to go at y[e] Petitioners Cost for this Purpose & that the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in Bill accordingly.

D. Pierce Clr

In Council May 15th 1747
read & Concurred & Sam[l] Smith & John Downing Esq. added to the Committee above.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Eodem Die Assented to

B. Wentworth

Province of New Hampr } Whereas some years past there was Lyberty granted By the General Court of Said Province for the Building a Bridge over the Salt river from Stratham to Newmarkit in said Province, and when ever the Same shall be Effected, We the Subscribers Expecting to receive a Benefit by the Same and owning the Lands from the said river where s[d] Bridge is ordered to be Built to the Country road in New Market Do hereby promis & Ingage for our Selves & our heirs to Give unto Stephen Bordman upon his request a good Deed of a Way two rods Wide through Each of our Lands for the Benefit of the publick, to pass & repass in with Lyberty of hanging Gate or gates, the Said Way is to Begin at the Lower end or South west end of M[r] Philip Fowlers garden at the country road in New Markit and so running near upon a streight line to the foot of said Bridge and for the true performance of What is above Written We the Subscribers do hereby bind ourselves and our heirs in the penal Some of five hundred pounds to Stand and abide by the Same as witness our hands this 7th Day of January 1760

Philip Fowler
Robert Smart

Province of New Hampshire } Stratham January y[e] 7th 1760
Then the within named Philip Fowler & Robert Smart Personally appeared and owned the within written Instrument to be there free act & Deed

Coram And[r] Wiggin Justis peace

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Hon[le] His Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened Jan y[e] 4th 1760

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Stratham & other Places in Said Province *Shews*

That in the twentieth year of His Majesty's Reign an Act was pass'd Granting liberty for Building a Bridge over New Market River a Little above the Place where the Ferry is kept from the Land of Andrew Wiggin to the Land of Robert Smart according to the Directions in said Act which Bridge it was Proposed shou'd be Built by Subscription and about two thousand Pounds O. T. accordingly subscribed but as the Subscription was not to be paid before the Bridge was Built there is no fund Provided for Defraying the first necessary Expence which must be Considerable and such a Building cannot be compleated merely on Credit. That the sum aforesaid is far short of a sufficiency to Effect the Design and very few Persons now appear willing to join the Subscribers so that there is no Prospect of Success in this affair by Subscription Especially Considering all future Subscribers will expect the Same Terms of Suspending the Payment.

That as there are Several Examples of Raising money for such Purposes by Public Lotterys many have tho't it a very feasible method & giving a fair Prospect of Success in this Case and many Persons wou'd contribut in this Way who wou'd Refuse to do it in any other and as Building said Bridge appears to be a Projection of very Considerable advantage to the Public and is therefore on that account worthy of Encouragement and much to be wished to be well Executed—

Your Petition^rs therefore Humbly Pray that they may have Liberty to Set up a Public Lottery for the End aforesaid and for maintaining said Bridge all to be under Such Regulations & managed by Such Persons as in your Great Wisdom you shall judge Proper and that the Petitioners may have Leave to bring in a Bill accordingly and they will as in Duty bound Ever Pray &c.

Samuel Lane	Saml Doe Junr
Nathan Taylor	Eph. Barker
Richd Rust	Joseph Merrill Junr
Richd Young	George Veasey
John Avery	William Pottle
Moses Boynton	Nathl Wiggin
Nathl Bracket	Henry Wiggin
John Davis	Danl Jackson
John Neal	Joseph Jewet
Thos Odel	Jona Thompson
Wm Burley	William Pottle Junr
Joseph Young	Saml Pevey
Nathl Leavit	Abra Kenniston
Thos Harvey	Robt Rawlins
Jona Hill	Benja Smith
John Avery	Benja Mathes
Josiah Allen	Ebenr Smith
Henry Wiggin	Joseph Sias
John Barker	Joseph Smith

Volentine Mathes
Walter Briant
Moses Davis
Saml Adams
John Shepherd
Jerem Foulsom
Charles Runlet
John Foulsom
Winthrop Hilton
Chase Wiggin
Saml Neal
Robt Pike
Caleb Clarke
Saml Tilton
Joseph Tilton
Jona Robinson
Joseph Burley Junr
Saml Burley
James Cram
Wm Barley Junr
David Haines
Nathl Piper
John Smart
John Tash
Arthur Bennet
Nathl Kenniston
Elisha Briant
Joseph Sandborn
Nathl Burley
Joseph Burley
Richd Perkins
Theodore Tilton
Winthrop Hilton Junr
Ichd Marston
Danl Hilton
Joseph Normon
John Barbor
Jerem Larey
Winthrop Pickerin
Jona Piper
Charles Smart
John Bergin
Zebulon Doe
Jno Wedgwood
Antho Pickerin
Robt Smart Junr
Wm Perkins
Geo. Spratt
Byron Sweeny
Abra Yourin
Jno Kenniston
Jno Mead
Geo Dutch
Francis Follit
Elipha Wiggin
Thos Tash
Elias Critchet
Benja Bennick
Jno Crocket
Saml Burley
Andrew Folsom
Saml Harvey
Jno Bartlet
Wm Welch
Ja Bracket
Ja Burley
Robt Rawlins
Hub. Matoon
Jacob Tilton
Ebenr Neal
Joseph Haley
Caleb Smart
John Perkins
Saml Chapman
Reuben Hill
Saml Wiggin
Andrew Wiggin Junr
Andrew French Junr
John Wiggin
Tho Wiggin
Saml Piper
Eleazr Allen
Saml Neal
Josiah Piper
Josiah Hilton
Nathl Pierce
Saml Wiggin
James Piper
John Piper
Josiah Parsons
John Burleigh
John Elliot
Benja Smart
D. Peirce
John Penhallow
Wm Johnson
Matthias Weeks
Zeb Duda
Stephen Bordman
Mark H Wentworth
John Moffatt
Rob Archibald
Winthrop Smith
Thos George
John Wedgwood
Danl Gilman
Hunkg Wentworth
Joseph Wiggin
John Hains Junr
Wm Pinell
Isaac Foss
Edwd Hilton
Lawrence Dowling
—— Gilman

Joseph Pickerin	James Goodwin
Abraham Dearborn	Jacob Burleigh
Abiather Sandborn	Cutt Shannon
Joseph Thomas	David Lyford
Joseph Joy	James Neal
Nicho Doe	Thos Johnson
Saml Pickerin	Saml Hains
Timo Jones	Thomas Huckins

In Council March the 13th 1759.
read & ordered that the foregoing Petition be sent Down to the Honble Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Secy

In Council November 1759
The Within Petition read again & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly

Theo Atkinson Secy

Province of New Hampre } In the House of Representatives Jan 4, 1760. This Petition being read

Voted That the petitioners have Liberty to bring In a Bill accordingly, Provided they give security that the Bridge prayed for shall be built & Maintained as by an act of this Governmt passed in the Twentieth Year of our Sovereign's Reign & also that it shall be free from any Expence to Passers.

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Jany. 5th 1760
read & concurred

Theo. Atkinson

Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the Province relating to New Market Bridge.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor & Commander in Chief In and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, To the Honble his Majestys Councill & House of Representatives for said Province Convened in Genl Assembly.

The Petition of the Subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants within this Province,

Humbly *Sheweth* That whereas there was some years sence a Grant made by the General Assembly of this Province to a Number of Petitioners, for Leave to Build a Bridge over Exeter River from New Market to Stratham near the Lower Ferry place and whereas a Number of Petitioners for Leave to set up a Lottery for the building of said Bridge have obtained Leave to bring in a Bill Accordingly, and it appearing to us that the building said Bridge at that Place will be a Much Greater Expence to the builders and much Less Benefit to the Publick than if the said Bridge should be built across said River at a place called the New Fields We Pray your Excellency & Honours to Reconsider the Votes Already Passed con-

cerning said Bridge and Grant that the said Bridge may be built at the s[d] New Fields, For the Following Reasons viz:

For that since the first Grant for building said Bridge at the lower Ferry place, The Country is Largely Settled back so as to make the Trading & Travelling by the said New Fields much more Convenient and Proffitable to the People in General than at the other place.

2[ly] For that the Damage (if any) to the People that Trade in Lumber at Exeter & other places above the New Fields will be much Less if the bridge be built at New Fields than if it be built below as the Rafts & Lighters which Come down from thence, Commonly stop at the New Field to make up their Load & Rafts bigger.

3[ly] For that the River at the New Fields is at bottom Evener and Firmer for making a bridge to stand fast than it is below and Not so wide by Eight rods, so that the Charge of building Said Bridge at New Fields would be Vastly Less than to build it below.

4[ly] For that there is already a high way laid open from the Country road in New Market to the upper End of the Landing at New Fields, and (if the bridge be built at New Fields) there will be a highway given by the owners of the Land in Stratham on the South side of said River From the said river to the Country road in Stratham which will be much more Serviceable & Convenient for People that Travel into the Country than the other way would be as also there will be a highway given from the Lower End of the Landing at New Fields to the Country Road in New Market near the Dwelling house of Hubartus Mattoon to Accommodate the People that live in the lower part of New Market and in Durham, which will make that way as Commodious for that people as if the bridge was to be built below.

5[ly] For that there is a Great Trade and business Carry'd on at the Said New Fields (Particularly Shipbuilding) which (as People are Frequently Settling there) is likely to Increase very Largely in Case the Said Bridge be built there.

For all which Reasons and many more that may be offered Your Petitioners Most Humbly Hope that your Excellency & Hon[rs] will Take under your wise Consideration the Premises aforesaid and Take Such order Concerning the Same as your Excellency & your Hon[rs] In your Great Wisdom Shall think Most Convenient and proper And Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c.

New Market Jan. 30th 1760

Jonathan Chase	John Palmer
Zebulon King	Moses Chase
Daniel Palmer	John Levitt Junr.
Benjamin Morrill	Samuel Levitt

John Coker
Moses Clark
Benjamin Levitt
Simon Wiggin
Benjamin Barker
Richard Gliden
Abner Thirston
William Badger
Joseph Norman
Greenleaf Clarke
Enoch Clarke
John Bean
Robert Barber
Edward Colcord
James Marston
James Marston Junr.
Caleb Marson
Jonathan Colcord
Gideon Colcord
Jonathan Colcord junr.
Joseph Chapman
Saml Baker
Winthrop Hilton Jun.
Ichabod Hilton
Jonathan Hill
Abnar Thurston
Jonathan Piper
Isile Marston
Robert Cross
Georg Hart
Jacob Tilton
Samuel Tilton
Edward Presson
Nathan Preson
William Shute
Wm Odiorne Junr.
Theodre Hilton

Roger Racklyeft
John Davis Junr.
Samuel Robinson
Benjamin Holt
Benja Jewett
John Thirston
Edward Hall
Joseph Hall
Israel Gilman
Winthrop Hilton
Michael Shute
Joshua Mitchell
Elias Tarlton
Thomas Cotton
William Moore
Stephen Emerson
John Neal
Nathan Sanborn
Banjman Avery
Abner Clough
Thomas Rowe
Israel Blake
Saml Gilman
John Manning
John Leavitt
Stephen Thirston
John Stockbridge
John Stockbridge Jr
John Rundlet
Richard Calley
William Calley
Volintine Clark
Jonathan Robinson
Chas Robinson
Saml Lane
John Clark

Prov. New Hamp. In Council Feby the 6th 1760
read & ordered to be sent down to the assembly
Theodore Atkinson Sec^{y}

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief of His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, To the Honorable His Majestys Council and House of Representatives for Said Province Conven'd in General Assembly.

The Petition of the Subscribers, Freeholders and others Inhabitants within this Province Humbly sheweth, That there was formerly a Grant made by the General Assembly of this Province to Build a Bridge over Exeter River from New Market to Stratham near the Lower Ferry place; But the same has

never been improved; nor is it likely that it ever will be improved. That its well known that Great advantage to the Publick would arrise from having a Bridge over said River between said Towns a little higher up the River at the New Fields landing Place so called; a situation far superior to that of the Place where Liberty was formerly Granted; in respect to the Convenience of Travelers throughout the Province, a narrower Passage, Shoaler waters, and an evener and firmer Bottom, so that the cost of Building would be a great deal Less than at the other place; That these reasons are so flagrant, that most if not all those who were formerly for haveing the Bridge Below, have relinquished their opinion being Convinced that a Bridge at the place now requested would be much more for the Publick utility: besides a Bridge in this place would be the least Impediment to the water Carriage, of any other place in the River and might easilly be contrived so as to give little or no hindrance to the Transportation of Rafts & Vessels.

Your Petitioners likewise Humbly presume that a Bridge in this place may be built on any Plan your Excellency and Honours may see most proper to order, by private subscriptions allowing as short a time as you may think sufficient to Effect the Same. Therefore for all these Reasons and many more which may be offered, evincing the great public and private usefulness of such a work, Your Petitioners Humbly pray that Liberty may be Granted for Building a Bridge over said River at the Place now requested. Your Petitioners earnestly Hope that your Excellency and Honours will take our prayer into your wise Consideration and give such orders Concerning the same as your Excellency and Honours shall think most proper and Convenient. And your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall ever pray.

New Market Jan 1766

James Johnston
Josiah Hilton
John Dow
Daniel Dow
Benja Dow Jr.
Noah Dow
Stephen Clark
Daniel Sanborn
Job Parsons
James Cram
Ed. Hall Bergin
Robt Thompson
Joshua Woodman
Chas Wiggin
Caleb Marston
Moses Dalton
Benja Hill

Robert Pike
Wm Johnston
John Johnston
Thos Johnston
Joshua Pickerin
John Huggens
Nathan Johnston
Ebenezer Neal
Francis Berry
David Knowles
John Brown
James Nudd
James Berry
Willm Hains
Abner Hains Junr
Noah Haines
Joshua Wingate 3d

David Wiggen
Jos Johnston Junr
Ebenr Haines
Paul Uran
Timothy Haines
John Johnston Junr
John Haines Jun.
Nathan Burley
Joseph Burleigh
Timothy Jones
Benja Johnston
John Johnston
Josiah Page
William Pottle
Jonathan Leavitt
Joseph Mason Junr
Richard Rust
John Avery Jr.
Andr Wiggin ye 3d
Stilman Tarlton
Simon Wiggen
John Hill
Nathan Hoag
Samuel Pottle
John Clarke
Saml Weeks
Thomas Nudd
Ichabod Weeks
Andrew Carter
John Avery
Ebenr Clarke
Chace Taylor
John Hill
Jacob Jewett
John Piper
Jona Wedgwood
John Randlet
Josiah Clarke
Enoch Clarke
Saml Nutter
Benja Nudd
Simon Philbrick
Saml Marston
Jona Huggens
Joseph Pickerin
Andrew French Jr.
Samuel Norton
Joseph Chandler
David Haines
Jona Elliott
David Burley
James Marston
Thomas Harvey
John Kimball
George Been
Thos Wiggen 3d
Joseph Young

Ebenezer Barker
Noah Barker
Joseph Wiggen
Benja Wiggen
Cotton Dockum
Chase Wiggen
Thos French
Joseph Wiggen Junr.
Joshua Weeks
Thomas Tash
Caleb Clarke
Samuel Baker
James Hill
Elisha Bryant
John Smith
Thomas Young
Walter Bryent
Jeremy Bryent
Nicholas Duda
Benjamin Shepard
Samuel Shepard
Samuel Parsons
Colb'n Buzzell
Joseph Hall
Edward Hall
Nicho Shute
John Neal
Cotton Haines
Nathan Barker
Jona Taylor
Matthias French
Moses Clark
Josiah Allen
Jona Weekes
David Berry
Simon Loveran
Josiah Haines
R. Tufton Philbrick
John Haines
Nathl Clark
Josiah Hanaford
Benja Barker
John Thurston
Saml Lane
Thos Veasey
John Tuck
Geo Veasey
Jos. Young
Jno Leavet
Zebulon King
Saml Leavit
Jona Chace
Steph Thurston
Jona Wiggen
Richd Calley
Wm Pottle Junr
Saml Marble

Chace Robinson
Benja Leavet
Jona Philbrick
Saml Mighels Jun.
Wm Crockett
Joseph Sanborn
Willm Whipple
Danl Rogers
Danl Rindge
John Rindge
Abra Tilton
Wm Badger
Ebenr Stanwood
Henry Wigen
Eph. Barker
Ed. Chase
Gid. Colcord
Jona Colcord
Wm Shute
Elias Tarlton
Richd Haley
John Shute
Thos Bartlett
N. Hopkinson
Geo. Hart
Is. Marston
Nathl Doe
Nicho Blasdle
Ed Eastham
Is: Blasdle
James Coffin
Joseph Merrill

Joshua Wiggin
Walter Neal
Israel Gilman Junr.
Benjamin Folsom
Stephen Gilman
Israel Gilman Senr
Robert Barber Senr
Robert Barber Junr.
David Gilman
Bradstreet Gilman
John Gilman
Moses Coffin
Enoch Coffin
William Coffin
Joseph Smith
Elisha Smith
Ezekiel Gilman
John Mighell
Saml Mighell senr
John Marstes
Hubnrtus Mattoon
George Dutch
Winthrop Hilton Senr
Winthrop Hilton Junr
Daniel Hilton
Jonathan Folsom
John Lyford
Richard Clarke
Richard Clark jun.
John Clarke
Thomas Hannifford

Prov of New Hampshire } In Council Jany 9th 1766
Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Honble House
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec^{y}

Province of New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Jany 9th 1766 The within Petition being Read and Considered

Voted That the Petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the Siting of the General Assembly next after the tenth Day of February next, and that the Petitioners at their own Cost Cause the Substance of the Petition and Order of Court to be Printed three weeks Successively in the New Hamps^{re} Gazett, That any Person may shew Cause why the Prayer thereof Should not be Granted

M. Wear Cl^{r}

In Council Jany 10th 1766
read & Concurred
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec^{y}

Province of New Hamp^{re} } June 26th 1766. Upon a motion made in behalf of the Petitioners that this Petition may be Revised,

Voted That the Petition be Revised and that the Petitioners be heard thereon the third Day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the Last Day of August next and that the Petitioners at their own Cost Cause the Substance of the Petition and this order of Court to be Printed three weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazette that any person may Shew Cause why the Prayer thereof Should not be Granted.

M. Weare Cler.

To the Honble Henry Sherburne att Portsmouth Esqr.

New Market Jany 7, 1766

Mr. Speaker.

Having seen a Petition which is to be prefer^d to the General Assembly for a Removeal of the Bridge that was to be maid a Cross Exeter River Near the Lower ferry (so called) between New Market and Stratham and am doubtfull whether Ever a bridge will be built at the place whare the act has *Proposed* tharefore hope the Generall Court will adhear to the Petitionors and a nother Reson for the bridge to be above is that Merss Shut and Mattoon has Given from under thire hands to open a Road from the upper ferry to the main Road which is a Great advantage to the North End of New Market

furthermore as the back Settlements Increas the bridge is much more wanting.

With Submiston I am your Hum^ble Servt

Joseph Smith

P. S. What cased me to write you is to Let you know the Reson as above why I Incline the upper place. J. S.

Sundry Inhabitants of New Market &c. Petition for a Lottery.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, The Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in general Assembly convened Feb. 23^d 1768.

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Newmarket Stratham & other Places in said Province Shews

That in the twentieth year of His late Majesty's Reign George the Second, an Act of this Province was pass'd, granting Liberty for Building a Bridge over New Market River a little above the Place where the Ferry is kept, from the Land of Andrew Wiggin to land of Robert Smart, according to the Direction in said act, which Bridge it was Propos'd should be built by Subscription, and about two thousand Pounds old Ten^r accordingly was subscribed, but the Subscription money was not to be paid before the Bridge was built, there is no fund provided for defreying the first necessary Expence, which must be considerable and such a Building cannot be compleated merely on Credit. That the Sum aforesaid is insufficient to effect the Design and very few Persons now appear willing to join the Subscribers so that there is no Prospect of Success in this Affair by Subscription especially considering all future Subscribers will expect the same Terms of suspending the Payment.

That as there are several Examples of raising money for such Purposes by Public Lotteries many have tho't it a very feasible method and giving a fair Prospect of Success in this

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Case, and many Persons wou'd contribute in this way, who wou'd refuse to do it in any other: as building said Bridge will be a public Benefit, and is therefore on that account worthy of Encouragement and much to be wished to be well executed.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that they may have Liberty to Set up a Public Lottery to raise money to erect and compleat said Bridge and for the future maintaining of the same, under such Regulations and managed by such Persons as in your great Wisdom you shall Judge proper, And they will as in Duty bound ever pray &c

Thos Wiggen
Thos Wiggin Junr.
Willm Weeks
Walter Wiggin
Saml Wiggin
Isaac Foss
Jona Wiggin
Ephrsim Crocket
Jno Crocket
Richd Rust
Thos Foss
Ezra Barker
Ebenr Barker
Nathl Piper
Stephn Piper
Jacob Wiggin
Moses Clark
Walter Wiggin
Tufton Wiggin
James Bracket
Josh Bracket
Nathl Bracket
Ebenr Bracket
Jona Dockum
George Bracket
Nathn Goss
Josha Weeks
John Kenniston
Thos French
Jerh Avery
Jacob Jewett
Willm French
Will French Junr
Danl French
John Avery
Josa Avery
Saml Wiggin Junr.
Nathl Wiggin
Andr French, Jun.
Andrew Wiggin jun.
Josa Hill
Josh Hill
Jona Piper
Elisa Piper
David Jewell
Danl Jewell
Thos Wiggin 3d
Jona Purkins
Nathn Hoag
Nathn Hoag
Nathan Barker
Jona Hill
John Hill
Josiah Allen
Nathl Goss
Saml Weeks
Stephen Bordman
Reuben G. Dearborn
Danl Clark
Enoch Clark
Will Jenkins
Ebenr Clark
Andr Carter
Walter Weeks
Ichabd Weeks
David Simpson
John Folsom
Mark Wiggin
Willm Burleigh
Robt Smart
Jonh Smart
Jno Bartlett
Simonds Fowler
Jacob Fowler
Jno. Perkins
Thos Perkins
Davd Smart
Hubertus Neal
John Bryent
Walter Bryant
Edwd Smith
Thos Robinson
Jams Burleigh
Moses Burleigh
Jno Purkins
Walter Bryant junr.

Josh Young	Saml Doe
Josh. Smart	Zebuln Doe Jur.
Ichabd Johnson	John Laya
Thos Stevenson	Ephr Folsom
Benja Chapman	Jona Edgerly
Micah Emerson	John Folsom Jun.
Josa Frost	Nicholas Hartford
Winthp Smith	John Hartford
Benjn Mead	Ebenr Durgin
John Mead	Jacob Foss
John Smart	Winthrop Wiggin
Timy Murray	Philip Pain
John B. M. Hanson	Josh Glanvill
Josh Thomas	Benjn Taylor
Ebenr Tasker	James Cram
John Edgerly Junr	Danl Sawyer
Danl Rogers	Josh Ham
Bradstreet Doe	Enoch Remmick
Josa Crummet	John Burleigh Junr.
John Smith	Ichd Bracket
Jams Smith Junr	Philip Fowler
Stephn Jenkins	Jeremy Bryent
Stephn Wille Jur.	John Pickering

Province of New Hamp^re } In the House of Representatives Feby 23 1768 The foregoing Petition being Considered

Voted That the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill for a Lottery to Raise money for building the Bridge mentioned in the Petition, to be subject to the Restrictions and Regulations Mentioned in the Act for Granting Liberty for building said Bridge by Subscription Pass'd in the year 1747

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council Feby 24 1768
Read & Concurr'd
Geo King Dep Sec^y

Act to raise money by Lottery for a Bridge over Exeter River.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Tertii magnæ Brittanniæ Franciæ et Hiberniæ octavo.

An Act for granting Liberty To Set up & Carry on a Public Lottery to raise Money for the Building & Maintaining a Bridge over Exeter River so called from Stratham to New Market in This Province.

Whereas in & by an Act passed in The twentieth year of his late Majesty's Reign Liberty was granted for the building a Bridge over said River at a Place & in The Manner therein expressed which not having been Carried into Execution many of the Inhabitants of this province have lately petitioned the General Assembly setting forth the great Benefit it would be to the province in general if that Design was executed, which has hitherto been delayed for want of Money & praying Leave to raise Money by a public Lottery for that purpose, which having been duly Considered & the Proposal appearing to be for publick Advantage

Be it therefore enacted by the Governour, Council & Assembly that

the persons hereinafter named be & hereby are authorized & permitted to set up & Carry on a publick Lottery to raise Money for the End aforesaid in so many Classes & Drafts as they shall judge proper not exceeding in the whole the Sum of one Thousand Pounds Lawful m^{y} of said province provided the said Lottery be drawn & finished within the Term of Two Years from the passing of this Act. And Andrew Wiggin & Walter Bryent Esq^{rs} Deac^{n} Stephen Boardman, Cornet Thomas Wiggin, Lieut Joseph Young & Lieut. John Burley, or the major part of them are hereby appointed to be managers of said Lottery who shall be under oath to be administered by any Justice of the peace to the faithful Discharge of that Trust & shall duly pay all benefit Tikets according to the Tenor & True Meaning of their Scheme & shall refund all sum and sums of Money that shall be paid for Tickets in Case the said Lottery shall not be drawn and Compleated within the Term aforesaid. And the said Managers or the Major part of them are hereby appointed & authorized to apply the Money which they shall so raise by Causing the said bridge to be built agreable to the Act aforesaid with this Difference that The Passage of twenty eight feet shall be where the deepest Water is instead of the Passage of forty five feet as mentioned in said Act & the forty five feet to be in the next birth on the side of New Market, and the Passage for Vessels may be made in any manner that shall be more Convenient than that propos'd in said Act & they shall Cause the said Bridge to be finished within one year after the said Lottery shall be finished & they shall be allowed their reasonable Demand for their Time & Trouble as the General Assembly shall Judge proper to whom they shall render their Account of their proceedings & all Charges & Demands Concerning the Premises & if any money shall remain after the Bridge shall be finished it shall be applied for the Support & Repairs thereof as the General Assembly shall Order.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid that there be a Convenient high Way each side of said Rivers from the Country Road to said Bridge when built in the Town of Stratham, to begin where the South East end of said Bridge shall be & from thence to run South easterly Thro' the Land of Andrew Wiggin Esqr. to the Country Road as the Road now goes, & in New Market To begin where the North West End of said Bridge shall be & from thence to run Northwesterly a straight Line to the Country Road near the Southerly side of Philip Fowlers Garden, the said Road in both Towns to be three Rods wide & to be under the same regulations as tho' it was laid by the quarter Sessions.

The owners of the Land giving the Land for that purpose which they have engaged To do provided they may have Liberty to hang & Maintain Two Gates on each side which Liberty is hereby granted.

Province of New Hamp^{re} } In the House of Representatives February 26th 1768. This bill having been read three times it passed to be Enacted

P. Gilman Speaker

In Council March 3^{d} 1768
This Bill was read three times & pass'd to be enacted
Geo King Depy. Sec^{y}
Assented to

J'WENTWORTH

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire the Honble His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened the 31 day of March 1772

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of New Market Stratham & other places in said Province *Shews*,

That they find by experience that the Plan for building a bridge of New Market Lower Ferry place is not so well suited for that Design as the upper ferry place called the New fields, that the Tydes by reason of the Several points of Land runs so much across the River that the Rafts will almost unavoidably be thrown on to the Piers which will necessarily occasion damage either to the Piers or the rafts add to this the Length of the distance to be built will occasion near double the cost that wou'd be necessary to compleat the work above. That your Petitioners humbly conceive that every advantage for Effecting Such a design, is so evidently on that side of the Question which of the two places is the best in Preference of the upper place, that your Petitioners are at a Loss what reasons determined the case as it is. That as the place where it is begun is fixed by an act, your Petitioners Suppose it cannot be changed without another act for that purpose otherwise the People concerned would have altered the design have erected it at the New Fields & it is probable have finished it there by this time. That it is supposed with the advantage of the materials already provided three hundred and fifty pounds will be sufficient to finish it that they have Set on foot a Subscription to Raise that sum which on the View of a Change of the Place will be soon full that if Liberty shall be granted to Erect the bridge at the Newfields there will appear a number of Persons to give sufficient Security that the whole work shall be compleated within One Year after such Liberty shall be granted.

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that they may have Liberty to Erect the bridge Proposed at the place called the New Fields may have the Property of the materials already provided as they are we suppose paid for or given gratis to the Public for the use of the undertakers or those who were to carry on the work and that they may have leave to bring in a bill accordingly and they will as in duty bound ever pray &c

James Hill
Aaron Moses
Henry Wiggen
Nathn Rogers
Ebenezar Stanwood
Jonathan Colcord
John Neal
Michael Shute
Robert Pike Junr
Josiah Adams
Samuel Gilman Junr
Edmund Chase

Isaac Marston
Joseph Wiggen
Joseph Doe
Nathl Gilman
Edward Colcord
Walter Neal
Jonathan Colcord the Third
Gideon Colcord
Joseph Merrill
Caleb Clark
Gideon Colcord
Samuel Baker
Elias Talton
John Shute
John Sweesey
Nathl Lord
Stileman Talton
John Colcord
John Marstes
Samuel Neal
Joseph Sanborn
Samuel Weaks
Nathanl Cross
Peter Folsom
Nicholas Hersey
James Gilman
Jacob Brown
Robert Barber Junr
John Stanwood
William Coffin
Daniel Barber
William Tyrrel
Stephen Clark
Enoch Coffin
Robertt Cross
William Hains
Benja Butler
Joseph Morrell
Seth Fogg
Benjamin Clifford
Simon Dearborn
Ezekiel Brown
Ebenezar Fisk
Jonathan Eliot
Benjamin Page
James Sanborn
Jonathan Philbrook
Jonathan Winslow
Barzellai French
John Gilman
Joseph Chandler
Jonathan Melloon
David Lawrence
Jeremiah Sanborn
Thomas Drake
Job Parsons

William Merrel
Josiah Norris
Joseph Gale
Samuel Langmaid
Joseph Smith
Simon Knowles
James Page
David Kindrick
Josiah Sanborn
John Towle
Reuben Osgood
Levi Dearborn
John Langmaid
Jonathan Clark
Joseph Mills
William Rowell
Andrew Hanson
Benjamin Morse
Samuel Osgood
Moses Dalton
Joseph Smith
Josa Wingate
Benjamin Leavitt
Harvey Moore
Thomas Wiggen
Simon Wiggen
Jonathan Wiggen
Moses Clark
Ephraim Barker
Benjamin Barker
Wm Whipple
Jos Whipple
Supply Clark
Josha Wentworth
James Stilson
Richard Hart
John Hurd
Jacob Treadwell
Samll Griffith
Benja Slade
David Griffith
George Janvrin
Samuel Cutts
George Wentworth
Samuel Shurburne
Daniel Shurburne
H. Wintworth
Robert Trail
John Moffatt
Gregore Pussell
John Parker
John Langdon
Jacob Sheaf Junr
George Boyd
Thomas Martin
Daniel Towle

May 22 1772 In the House of Representatives upon Reading this Petition

Voted that the Petitioners be heard thereon on the of June next and that the Petitioners

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Relating to a highway in New Market.

Pursuant to a Vote of the General Assembly appointing us the Subscribers to make Inquiry Relating a Certain High way in the Parish of New Market as Set forth in a a Petition to the General Assembly &c. We have on the 20 of March 1766 Viewed Said High way & fully heard the Parties Concerned there on and do agree to Report as followeth Viz: that the High way above Mentioned ought to be & Remaine as follows. Beginning at a Gate about twelve Rods to the North West of Piscasuk Bridge then Running Northerly as the Way was formerly Laid out and as it now goes through the Land of Joseph Hall Esq. and through the Land of James Marston & through the Land of Edward Colcorde as it now Goes to Joseph Lovering's Land then Beginning by Lovering's Land on the west Side of Said way and Running through the Same as followeth North ten degrees West thirty two rods then north fourteen degrees west twenty two rods to Jacob Ames Land then North forty degrees West thirty Rods to a Stone Bridge, over a small Brook the way to be two Rods wide and on the North Easterly side of said Line through Lovering's land to the stone bridge then north eight degrees east fifty eight rods to Stephen Lyfords land the way to be on the westerly side of said line then North nineteen Degrees East thirty four Rods as the way is now fenced out then North forty two Degrees East twenty four Rods then North forty nine Degrees East thirty five Rods to Nath Ames his Land then North forty five Degrees East Sixteen Rods then North Sixty Seven Degrees East thirty Rods then North twenty two Degrees East twenty two Rods as the way is now fenced out to Jacob Ames Land then through Said Ames his Land North twenty two Degrees East ten Rods then North thirty one Degrees East Sixteen Rods then North fourteen Degrees west twenty Rods on a Strate Line to Josiah Hiltons South Corner Keeping the way as it now goes till it Comes to a High way formerly Laid out the way to be on the Westerly side of said Line throw Said Ames' Last mentioned Land.

Never the Less since the Said Jacob Ames has by an agreement with the Seleet men Partly fenced the Road from Said Last mentioned Bridge on the Westerly Side of his orchard up a steep hill if the Said Jacob Ames will within thirty days from the tenth day of July next Cause the Said way on the Westerly Side of his orchard to be made Passable in the Judgment of the Selectmen of Said New Market then we think it ought to go on the west side and if not to go through his Land as above said

And also that there be paid unto the Person whose names here after mentioned for their Lands by the Select men of the above Said New Market.

To James Marston	3:	4:	9
to Edward Colcord	3:	5:	6
to Nathaniel Ames	2:	11:	0
to Stephen Lyford	3:	9:	9
to Joseph Lovering	4:	0:	0

Lawful money

All which is Humbly Submitted by

Jn° Wentworth
Andr Wiggin
Richd Jenness 3d
} Committee

Province of New Hamp^re } In the House of Representatives July 5th 1766 Voted and Resolved That the foregoing Report be accepted allowed and Confirmed

M. Wear Cl^r

In Council Eo^dem Die
read & Concurred.
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Petition of Selectmen of New Market and others for a highway.

Province of New Hamp^re } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captn General, Governour, and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire: The Honble His Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened 25 June 1765.

The humble Petition of the Selectmen of New Market & others *sheweth*,

That the Selectmen of New Market aforesaid on the 18 Day of August 1763 laid out a High Way Two Rods wide in New Market aforesaid thro' the Lands of Several Persons; and made a Return thereof (which was recorded on the Towns Records) to General Sattisfaction. But it has sence been discovered that thro' the Inadvertency of the Surveyor there was a Mistake made in several of the courses of said Way between the Gate near Piscassick Bridge and Josiah Hiltons South West Corner so that instead of the Returns Directing it in such convenient Places as was then intended and agreed on it directs it to such Places as are very Inconvenient and almost Inaccessible to the damage of some and great Dissatisfaction of others.

Wherefore your Petitioners Pray your Excellency and Hon^rs to interfere in the Premises and appoint and send a Committee to investigate the Inconveniency Thereof and Provide a Remedy Therefor by determining the Particular Place or Places where said Way shall go.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray.

JOHN BURLEIGH
ISRAEL GILMAN JR.
WALTER BRYANT
} Selectmen

Hubartus Mattoon
Daniel Hilton
Joseph Merrill
Sam^ll Hilton
Theod^re Hilton
Thomas Young
Benjamin Folsom
Peter Folsom

James Marston
Hubartus Neal
Isaac Marston
Winthrop Hilton
Winthrop Hilton Junr
Saml Pease
Robart Barber Jr.
Stephen Gilman

David Gilman
Zebulon Marsh
Sam[l] Baker
John Pike
Joseph Doe
William Perkins
W[m] Badger.

Province of New Hamp[re] July 3[d] 1765.
In Council
read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon[ble] The Assembly

Province of New Hamps } In the house of Representatives July 3[d] 1765 This petition being heard

Voted That the petitioners be heard thereon nex friday if the Gen[l] Assembly be then sitting if not then on the second day of their sitting nex after & that he cause the Parties whose lands the said Road Runs thro', to be Serv'd with a Copy of said petition & this order of Court thereon that they may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof Should not be Granted.

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurred
T. Atkinson Jun[r] Sec[y]

Province of New Hamp[re] } In the House of Representatives Nov[r] 28, 1765 The Parties being heard on the within Petition

Voted That Col[o] John Wentworth Andrew Wiggin & Richard Jenness Esq[rs] be a Committee they or any two of them to make Inquiry Respecting the Highway mentioned in this Petition and the Return of the same and where the same ought to be laid for the Publick benefit and what satisfaction Ought to be made for any Lands through which the same may Pass, and to make Report to the General Assembly as soon as may be. The charge of the Committee to be Paid by the Parish of New Market

M. Weare Cl[r]

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurred
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec[y]

NEW IPSWICH.

[Incorporated 9 September, 1762. Ed.]

Votes of a Town meeting in N. Ipswich, Oct. 8, 1764.

Att a Town meeting held at the Meeting House in Ipswich in the Provence of New Hampshier on Monday y[e] Eighth Day of October A. D. 1764

Voted to Set a New Meeting House on the Commonage Near Whear the Meeting House Now Stands. Chosen to Bound the Meeting House Spot Benjamin Adams Reuben Taylor and Reuben Kidder

Voted to accept the Spot as it is Markt out by Said Gentlemen.

Att a Legal meeting of the Town of New Ipswich in the Provence of New Hampshire held in Said Town at the meeting House on the twenty third Day of April A. D. 1767,

Voted to Buld a meeting House next summer.

Voted to Buld the Meeting House on the place where it was formerly Stakte out by a Committee.

At a Legal Meeting of the Town of New Ipswich in the Provence of New Hampshier held at the meeting House in s[d] Town on the twentyeth Day of May A. D. 1767

Voted to Confirm the Vots Past at the Last Town Meeting.

A True Coppy of the Vote past in New Ipswich Respecting a place to Buld a meeting House on.

Attest pr. Isaac Appleton Town Clerk.

Petition of the inhabitants of New Ipswich for a Committee to settle a plan for a meeting house.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Cap[t] Gener[l] Governor & Commander In Chief In & over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp[r] the hon[bl]e his majesties Council & house of Representatives for said Province In General Assembly Convened.

The humble Petition of us the Subscribers freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Ipswich in said Province Shews That the Inhabitants of said Town are about to Build a meeting house for the public Worship of God there & have Lately had a meeting for that Purpose that it appears the said Inhabitants are no Ways Likely to agree on a suitable place to set the same that may in any manner accomad'e a Very Considerable Number of the said Inhabitants & best Land, that much Uneasiness has already arisen on account thereof & more Likely to Insue and Shou'd that be the Case, May be the Means of hurting or Preventing a further Settlement of the Lands now Wild in said Town.

That your Petitioners under a Sence of the Great Benefit Arising from a Peaceable Neighbourhood Now in the Infant State of said Town, Most humbly pray that your Excellency & honors wou'd Interpose & Take their peculiar Circumstances Into Consideration & that they may have a Committee to repair to Said Town & View the Same & Report a proper place which We pray may be final, or Give Such Other Relief as your Excellency and honors shall see Meet and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray.

June 25th 1767

Benj. Safford	Abraham Bennet
Paltiah Whittemore	Samuel Whittemore
Joseph Pollard	Ichabod How
James Chandler	Benj[a] Gibbs
Hezekiah Cory	Allen Breed
Wido Mary Foster	Zacriah Adams
John Welar	Thomas Heald
Simeon Wright	Thomas Spaulding

Samuel Kenney	Simeon Hildreth
Joel Crosby	Stephen Adams
Tom Walker	Elazer Cummings
Reuben Hosmer	Jacob Gragg
Andrew Conn	David Rumrill
Simeon Fletcher	Samuel Holdin
Stephen Adams Jr.	Andrew Spaulding
Abraham Estibrook ?	Robert Campbell
Samuel Wheeler	William Hodgkins
Thomas Adams	Josiah Walton
James Taler ?	Thomas Brown
Jesse Calton	Reuben Tailor

Province of } In the House of Representatives August 19th 1767
New Hampre } Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition the Second Day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the 20th Day of September next, and that the Petitioners at their own Cost serve the Selectmen of said Ipswich with a Copy of this Petition and Order of Court, And also Cause the Substance of the Petition And Order of Court to be printed three weeks in the New Hampshire Gazett That any Person may appear and Shew Cause why the Prayer thereof Should not be Granted

M. Weare Clr

In Council Augest 20th 1767
Read and Concurred
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Sepr 22d 1767
New Hampsre } Upon hearing the Petitioners on the foregoing Petition and also a Comtee on behalf of the Town against the Petition it appears that Sending a Comtee will be most likely to Settle Peace in the town Therefore

Voted That Colo John Goffe John Hale and James Underwood Esqrs. be a Committee to Determine the most Suitable Place for Erecting a Meeting House in said Town and to make Report to the General Assembly as soon as may be.

M. Weare Celr

In Council Septr 24th 1767
Read & Concurred
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Agreeable to the Within Vote We have been at the Town of New Ipswich have fully heard and Considered what has been offered by all Concerned Examin'd the Town Votes and View'd the Situation of the Town and from all Circumstances are fully Sattesfied that the place where the meeting House now is in said Town is the best situation for it to be Continued in will best accommodate the Town and be most agreeable to the Greatest part of the Inhabitants and accordingly we beg Leave so to Report

John Goffe
John Hale
James Underwood

February 18th 1768

Acc't of the Pay of Petitioners & Non Petitioners.

In a Rate of three Hundred Pound the Petitioners with those that Voted with them aganst Bulding a meeting House on the Spot where

the Town Voted to Build it Pay Eighty foure Pound one Shilling, the other Inhabitance Pay two Hundred fifteen Pound nineteen Shillings to the same Rate Exclusive of the Poles

Isaac Appleton
Nath[l] Stone } Selectmen
Benja Hoar

Province of New Hamp[re] } In the House of Representatives Feb[y] 19th 1768

Voted That the foregoing Report of the Committee be accepted and the Place for Setting the meeting House in said Ipswich Established agreeable thereto, and further

Voted That the accomp[t] of said Committee for their time and Expence in that Business amounting to three Pounds sixteen Shillings Lawfull money be allowd and Paid them by the Selectmen of said Ipswich, who are Directed to assess the Inhabitauts for the Same.

M. Weare Cl[r]

In Council eodem die
Read & Concurr'd
Geo King Dep[y] Sec[y]
Assented to
J'WENTWORTH

NOTE.—On MS. p. 105, of Vol. 5, is a plan of lots in New Ipswich, not here inserted. ED.

NEWTOWN.

[Incorporated 6 December, 1749. See South Hampton. ED.]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majestys Council for said Province.

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of that part of the Town of Amesbury that lyeth to the Northward of the Boundary line between the Province of New Hampshire and Massachusetts Bay by the late Settlement of the S[d] Line and to the Southward of Shapleys Line so called most humbly shews That your Petitioners understand that about sixty persons in Number who live in that part of Salisbury that lyeth between the two afores[d] lines and that part of Amesbury afores[d] have petitioned your Excellency and Honours for a Township of seven miles in Length as mentioned in their Petition. That your Petitioners are included within the bounds of said Township. That the meeting house they have Erected for themselves is so situated as that it is no ways convenient for your Petitioners. That many of those who signed their Petition

now say they were deceived. That it will be a great Burden to your Petitioners if they are under an obligation to be holden by what their Neighbors have asked for themselves. That your Petitioners desire they may have liberty to be annexed to such Parishes as are most convenient for them till Such Time as they shall be able to make a parrish among themselves.

Wherefore your Petitioners pray your Excellency and Honours to grant your Petitioners liberty to speak for themselves before your Excellency and Honours and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Feb. 18th 1741–2

Jonathan Kimball	Orlando Bagly
Jonathan Wasson	David Bagly
Jonathan Farron	Andrew Whitt
Timothy Farron	Timothy Whittier
David Gooden	Josiah Fowller
Samuell Gooden	Thomas Fowller
Philip Challess	David Elott
Benjamin Kimball	Thomas Carter
Caleb Hobs	John Carter
Roger Estman	William Fowller
William Sargent	Thomas Carter Junr.
Nathanel Ash	Willm Fowller Junr.
George Marsten	John Carter Junr
Robert Marter	Joseph Fowller
Abraham Marroll	John Carter
David Marten	Jacob Carter
Ivery Fooler ?	Samuell Carter

The Inhabitants of Almsbury Peek petition.

Province of New Hampre } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire & to the Honble His Majesties Council of sd Province in Court assembled at Portsmouth Decr 27th Anno Domini 1743.

The Memorial of Peter Morse, John Webster & Samuel Plummer for themselves and in behalf of Sundry others Inhabitants of the North Westerly part of the Town of Almsbury commonly called Almsbury Peek and within the Said Province

Humbly *sheweth* That your Petitioners Labour under inexpressible difficulties by reason of our being annexed to the Toun of South Hampton. That the most of us live near fourteen Miles from the Meeting House in said Town and therefore cannot without great Cost as well as hazzard in passing their rocky & dangerous paths ever attend the publick worship of God there.

That lying at such a distance from them we have no Notice

of their meetings for transacting their publick affairs So that we have no liberty of voteing; are Tax[d] & chosen into office without our Consent or Knowledge which with humble submission we Cannot but think a very Great Grievance.

That your petitioners also live near Eight miles from Kingston meeting House So that it will be very difficult for us to attend the publick worship of God there & we would further humbly suggest that Kingston haveing of late Claimed Our lands there is now such a discord betwixt us that will we fear never be reconciled so as to sit easy together.

That we are unable to support the worship of God amongst ourselves (tho we are willing and desirous to Contribute to it according to our ability) and we liveing very near & Convenient to Haverhill district have some of us attended the worship of God at the Rev[d] M[r] Cushings meeting others at Timber lane for many years past through their lenity to us, unless sometimes in the winter Season we have at a very great Cost hired preaching amongst ourselves & we apprehending that if we were annexed to that district it might make Two good parishes & would be agreeable and a very great Satisfaction to them as well as ourselves we earnestly request your Excellency and Honours to annex us to that district so that we may have y[e] priviledges as they have, & for your Excellency & Honours

Your Humble petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

William Sawerd	Amos Clark
Samuell Hunt	Nathan Goodwin
Peter Morss	Richard Goodwin
John Webster	Beniman Hadley
Samuel Plummer	Edmund Sayer
Thomas Williams	Nathan Hunt
Joseph Hadley	Obediah Wels

New Town Petition.

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governour in Chieff in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamp[re] in New England and to the Hon[ble] his Maj[ties] Council.

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants that Live in Almsbury District & in South Hampton in the Province aforesaid

Humbly *Sheweth* That Several of your Petitioners have for many Years past been under very Difficult & Melancholy Circumstances because of their Liveing three or four Miles from any Place of Publick Worship which is very hard upon them at any time of the Year and Especially in the Winter Season when it is almost Impossible for them and much more for their

families to attend the Publick worship a Considerable Part of their Time.

But in the midst of these discouragements your Petitioners have for some years Past Pleased themselves with the hopes that if a Kind Providence would sooner or later Provide for their Better Accommodation. However these agreeable hopes have in some measure been retarded by the Settlement of the Line between the two Provinces and also by the Grant of the Township of South Hampton By Virtue of which Grant Several of your Petitioners fall within that Township and are obleedged to Pay their rates there Notwithstanding such your Petitioners humbly Conceive that when the Meeting House was erected there the Managers of that affair had Little or no regard to their accommodation but on the Contrary could not but be Senseble that we could not Possibly attend the Publick worship in South Hampton for a Great Parte of the Year because of the Extraordinary Difficultys in Passing over Powow river which is very often overflowed by reason of Several Dams that are built thereon which Deplorable Circumstances have Put your Petitioners upon Prepareing to Erect a Meeting House in the Most Suitable place they could find for that Purpose, and it is so situated that it will accommodate near sixty families and scarce any of them be obleedged to Travel above Two Miles. Your Petitioners therefore humbly hope that the Consideration of their great hardships will so far prevail with your Excellencies & your Honour as to grant them a Parish Bounded as followeth: Beginning at a White ash Tree by Powows river which is said to be a bound of Chapleys Line and so following said Line to the West of Powows Pond so called so running South West to Haverhill Line so called and so following Haverhill Line to the Province Line and so following the Province Line Easterly to Powows river and so following the said river to our beginning and your Petitioners are the rather encouraged to expect some favour from your Excellency Because your Late Hon^{ll} father was so remarkably famous for Benevolence & Condescention and we humbly Trust & hope that those Paternal accomplishments will Equally attend your Wise & just administration and we also flatter ourselves with some hopes of success from the Honesty & Justice of our Case & Especially when we beg Leave to affirm that this our humble Petition Proceeds not from a Spirit of Strife & faction or for want of Due affection to any of the Neighbouri. g Ministers but Purely from a hearty Desire of haveing a Convenient Place to Worship God in constantly after the manner of our forefathers and according to the usual Custom of the Established Churches in this Country, and therefore your Petitioners Humbly hope that your Excelency & your Hon^{rs} will Grant them such relieff in

the Premises as shall be most agreeable to Equity & Good Conscience.

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray &c.

The Petitioners Names that Live in Almsbury District.

Joseph Bartlet
William Rowell
Cutting Farrier
Thomas Bedle
Dan[l] Kelly
Henry Bagley
Andrew Whittier
Timothy Whittier
Samuel Jewel
Daniel Gould
Henry Flood X his mark
Gideon Bartlet
David Morton X his mark
Abraham Merrill
William Fowler
David X Elliot his mark
Thomas Carter
Daniel Sargent
David Sargent
William X Sergent his mark
David Bayley
Thomas X Greenfield his mark
Henry X Flood his mark
Ezra X Tucker his mark
Sam[l] X Hadley his mark
Peter Colby
David Colby
Samuel X Jewel his mark
Moses X Colby his mark
John Challis

Those that live in South Hampton.

Jonathan Farren
David Goodwin
Robert Martin
Samuel X Goodwin his mark
Daniel Goodwin
Jonathan X Kimball his mark
Roger Eastman
Philip Challis
Nathaniel Ash
his
William X Sergent
mark
Nathaniel Asbery
George Master
Rogals X Colby his mark
Cateb Hobbs
Timothy Farren
Jonathan Watson
Micah Hays
John Eliot
Jacob Colby
David X Colby his mark
Aron Currier
Caleb X Hobbs his mark
James X George his mark
Zacheus X Colby his mark
Benjamin Kimbal

Copy attest[t]
Theodore Atklnson Sec[y]

Preferred the 18th April 1744

In the House of Representatives Apr. 15th 1744 The within Petition Read & Voted That the Petitioners serve the Select men of South Hampton with a Coppy of the within Petition & Votes thereon to appear the 3[d] day of the sitting of the Gen[l] Ass[m] after the first day of May next, to shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer of the Petitjon may not be granted, the Charges to be paid by the Petitioner.

James Jeffry Cle[r] Ass[m]

Report of a Committee.

Province of New Hamps. } May 27th 1745

We the Subscribers being appointed by his Excellency the Governor and the Hon[ble] His Majesty's Councill a Committee to goe and View the Land and Settlements mentioned in a Petition of Joseph Bartlett & others Inhabitants of Almsbury District

praying to be Incorporated into a Parish &c: and to take with us the Petition & Vote of the Town of South Hampton and to Notify the Select men of South Hampton &c.

Agreeable whereto we met at the House of Capt Joseph Bartlett in said District on the 15th Inst (Having Seven days Before Notified the Select Men of South Hampton and the Select men of Kingston of the time Place & Purpose of Our Meeting) where being attended by the Select men of South Hampton and Maj^{r} Stevens being present to say for Kingston; we proceeded to Enquire Into the Circumstances of the Petitioners and other Inhabitants thereabout and Having heard and Consider'd the things offered and then Viewed the Situation and Circumstances of the Places &c. We beg leave Humbly to Report that it appears to us that the Circumstances of the Petitioners are Such that they Cannot without Great Difficulty attend the Publick Worship and other Publick affairs at South Hampton or be joyned to any Neighboring Place for their accommodation So that it appears to us Reasonable that they Should be Incorporated into a Parish by Meets & bounds as follows (Viz:) To begin at the white Ash Tree by Powers River Mentioned in their Petition and from thence westwardly to follow Shapleys line so Called till it comes to Powers Pond so Called and then to follow the Pond to the South east corner of the long Cove so Called, and from thence on a straight line to the Northwest End of the Long Cassway on the Road from Kingstown to Swetts ferry, and from thence on a Straight line to John Peasley's juner. Barn and from thence on a straight Course towards Timothy Emerson's house till it strikes Haverhill line so called (allowing to any Inhabitants of Kingstown the liberty of Polling with their Estates Into this Parish if they Desire it and Give in their names to the Select men of this new Parish within one year after they are Incorporated into a Parish) and from thence to follow Haverhill line to the Province line then to follow the Province line Eastwardly to Powers River, and so following said River to the Bounds first Mentioned: Allowing to Capt Jonathan Currier Richard Currier & Larrance Straw liberty if they see Cause and their Estates to Poll to South Hampton and as there are some of the Inhabitants of South Hampton who own Some land that falls within the Bounds aforementioned that those lands while they belong to the Inhabitants of South Hampton pay taxes to South Hampton.

All which is Humbly Submitted By

Joshua Wingate
Eben^{r} Stevens
Meshech Weare

Petition of Inhabitants in West part of Almsbury respecting a Parish.

Almsbury Deastrick January 10 ye 1745–6

To the honre'd Geanral Cort in Porchmoth

humbly Sueath we hous nams are under written Lyuing in the west Eand of Almsbury Deastrick Lately heard that we are Sourounded with a Pertition for a Parish without our knolidge or Leave, it Being a Deficalt and Chargabel time on account of the wars and sum of the Pertitioners Being But lo in Estate which we humbly Conseave will not be abel

to Seuport the Charge which will neasecary arise, Nither can we think it will be for the Glory of God to force any man to do that he is not abel nor willing to do, we humbly Pray you the honred Cort that you Consider us and not force us aganst our wills and ability.

John Marten
Thomas Davis
Samuel Davis
George Hadley
Francis Chase
Amas Davis
Moses Sanders
Jacob Davis
Robert Stuart
Jeremiah Carleton
Moses Carlton
Sargent Heath
Parrot Hadley
Samuel Hadley Junior
Filip Sargant

The Petition of Sam[l] French and others against a new Parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General and Governour in Cheif in and over his Majsties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the hon[ble] his Maj[tles] Council Jan y[e] 15 1745–6.

We the Select men of South Hampton have taken opportunity At this time to Express our loyalty to the Kings Majesty and our Duty to your Excellency and Honours. We humbly confide in your tender Regard for us and whereas we have settled a church of our lord Jesus a Mong us that you will protect us so that we May be able to Support it.

Whereas there has been appointed by his Excellency the Governour and the Hon[able] his Majesties Council a Committee to go and view the lands and Settlement Mentioned in y[e] Petition of Joseph Bartlett and other Inhabitants of Amesbury District and to take with them y[e] petition and y[e] vote of y[e] Town of South Hampton (and we the Select men of South Hampton being Served with a Copy of y[e] Committee's Report we Humbly begs leave to oppose the vote and y[e] Report of y[e] Committee for y[e] Reasons here after Mention[d] first as to the vote our Dissenting bretheren presented a petition to y[e] Town at a legal Meeting Held at South Hampton September y[e] 29 1742 which is as followeth.

September y[e] 29, 1742. We whose Names are under written do petition to y[e] town of South Hampton that they would agree to pass a vote that that part of y[e] town which Lieth upon y[e] west side of powers River should be set off as soon as they are in order to settle a Minister that is More Convanant for them that is as many as shall be willing to be set off then we will agree to holy support y[e] Minister here till then If you will finish y[e] meeting house and settel a Minister upon your Charge,

and like wise to Releas us from doing anything toward the meeting house that has been past.

Jonathan Farren	Phillip Challish
Micaih Hoyt	Samuel Goodwin
James George	William Sargent
John Eliot	Caleb Hobs
Aaron Currier	Daniel Goodwin
David Goodwin	George Martain
David Martain	Jon^{a} Kimball
Timothy Farren	Benj^{a} Kimball
Thomas Greenfield	Roger Easman
John Sargent	David Colby
Abraham Merrill	Jacob Colby
Robart Martain	Zaccheus Colby
Nathaniel Ash	Jon^{a} Wotson

A true Copy of their petition.

Attest Reuben Dimond town Clerk

2ly we told our Dissenting brethren that we could not set them off for we had no power to Encorporate our selves into a town so we had no power to make any secession but we told our Dissenting brethren that it was a time of Grate charge with us and if they would Joyne with us in our Extraordinary charges that when they should be thought capable by lawfull authority to maintain ye Gospel of christ among them then we would pay back all their part of ye Extraordinary charges that should arise to them in finishing ye Meeting house setteling a Minister and bulding for him We Did not make our Dissenting brethren this offer because they Could Make any Majority upon us but we Did it for peace we considering how good it is for brethren to Dweel to geather in love and unity and that peace is the beauty of a society and it was so nessary and so valuable that we ar Ready to sacrifice anything to procure it Saving only a good conscience and so we proceeded to a Vote which is as followeth.

At a meeting of ye Inhabitants of ye town of South Hampton September ye 29, 1742

Cornet Abraham Brown was Chosen moderator for ye Same Meeting. At ye same meeting it was taken in to consideration that whereas there are a number of Inhabitants of ye upper or west part of this town that live at a Considerable Distance from Meeting and have thought in time to be better accommodated, then Constantly to Assemble with us and we being Desirous to Exercise all Christian Regard and Kindness to them, Votes first that all those persons that lives above or to ye Westward of Capt. Jon^{a} Currier's that have a mind to go off and be a parish shall have their Extraordinary Charge that they are now at among us paid back again to them that is to say all their part of ye Extraordinary Charges that shall arise to them by finishing ye Meeting house setteling a Minister and bulding for him when they shall be thought capable by Lawfull authority to Maintain ye Gospel of christ among them provided they do not molest or hinder us of ye other part in our speedy Seteling a Gospel Minister among us and that they pay toward his support while they are of us or belong to us hopeing at ye same time they will of their own free will be assisting to us.

2ly voted that we will make no opposition to them in their indeavour to be a Regular town or parrish whenever they shall be thought Capable by lawfull authority

Voted in ye affirmative.

A true copy

Attest Reuben Dimond town clerk.

3ly We sent a Committee to the Association meeting of ye Rev. Ministers at ye Rev. Mr. Coffins in Kingston lower parrish to ask advice how we should proceed in a Regular way to settle a Gospel Minister among us and there appeared some of our Dissenting brethren and opposed ye Vote and said we did that only for a Sham for we knew they could not make a parish but we should say when they and their neighbors could make a parish whereas we Drew ye vote according to their petition and they never ask us to set them off to Joyn with their neighbors for there is not such a word in their petition as their neighbours:

4^ly^ We call'd a town meeting which is as followeth At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of ye town of South Hampton November ye 26: 1742

John Flanders was chosen Moderator for ye same meeting. At ye same meeting it was taken into Consideration that whereas we ye Inhabitants of this town being in present want of a pious Larned orthodox Minister of a good Conversation to Dispense ye word and Administer ye ordinances of our lord Jesus among us and it being our Duty to look up to Heaven for Divine assistance to guide us in all our affairs, therefore voted that thursday ye 2 day of December next is appointed to be a day of fasting and prayer in order for ye calling and settling a Gospel Minister among us.

Voted and past in ye Affirmative.

At a meeting of ye Inhabitants of ye town of South Hampton Feb. ye 15 1742-3 Joseph French was chosen Moderator, at ye same meeting it was put to vote wheither the town would Chuse the Rev Mr. Odlin and the Rev. Mr. Gookins and their Messengers to be assistant in Council with the other ministers for gathering a church and carring on ye ordination among us and ye vote past in ye affirmative.

A true copy

Attest Reuben Dimond town Clerk

8^ly^ ye Rev Council came to our assistance ye day appointed and ye Rev^d^ Mr. Caleb Chusing was Moderator, and our Dissenting brethren appeared in Council and objected against Some of the Council and ye Moderator. Ask them who they wear and they said Mr. Joseph Parsens Mr. Saml Parsons and Mr. Fogg, the Moderator ask them what they had against them men they said they were akend to ye man that was to be ordained the Moderator ask them what they had against ye man that was to be ordained as to his life and Conversation or his Doctrine and they Eledge nothing but they said ye province line would be Removed and then they should lose the money they Expended with us and they had not a Convenant way. the Moderator told them that could be no bar against Seteling a minister if ye province line should be moved we must petition to the Massachusetts Court for a parish and as to high ways ye law provides how they should get them so not withstanding all their opposition and Allegations ye Revd Council see their way Clear to proceed to the ordaining ye Rev. Mr. Parsons in ye work of ye Ministry among us.

9^ly^ we voted that we would pay back again to them all their part of the Extraordinary Charge that should arise to them by finishing ye meeting house Setteling a minister and bulding for him but then there was a Condition anexed to that vote, it was provided they did not molest or hinder us of ye other part in our Speedy setteling a gospel minister among us. Now some of our Dissenting brethren say they have not hinder us in setteling a Minister but how came it to pass that they did not hinder us, it was because they could not hinder us. they molested us and they opposed us from place to place and from time to time, they Entered their Contrary Dissents once and again against our regular proceedings in an orderly way to settel a minister among us and

they did not enter contrary dissents only against the Rev Mr. Parsons but against all the Candidates for ye Ministry so that if they could have Got their wills, we had never had a Gospel Minister Setteld with us to ye end of the world.

10^ly^ all these Molestations Enterruptions and oppositions we have met with from our Dissenting brethren since we offered them that vote yet now they would skreen themselves under that vote when they never Full-Fill'd ye Conditions of ye vote in any one Article. For if they had Concured with us we had no need to have called so many town meeting nor been put to such an Extraordinary Charge in Sending from town to town and from one parish to another about ye Country to call in that Grand Council for two or three ye neighbouring ministers would have done our bissness in ye morning before ye ordination.

11^ly^ After we offered our Dissenting brethren that vote we made them another offer that whereas they had not then Rais'd their meeting house that if they would set it one mile above ye upper end of our town and then our meeting houses would stand four miles and a half apart and then we would be willing they should have a midle line and that would be but two miles and one quarter each way and we thought that could not be hard for any to go to meeting.

At the same meeting Capt Jonathan Currier and Joseph French jun. was chosen a Committee to call in ye assistance of ye neighbouring Ministers to Celebrate a day of Fasting and prayer among us.

Voted and past in ye affirmative.

Nathaniel Ash	Sam^ll^ Goodwin
Jonathan Ferran	John Eliot
James George	David Goodwin
Daniel Goodwin	Phillip Challis,
Jacob Colby	David Colby

enters their contrary Dissents against ye vote for ye last which was for calling and Setteling a gospel Minister among us.

A true copy of ye votes and all ye Dissenters that lives above or to ye westward of Powers River.

Attest Reuben Dimond town Clerk.

5^ly^ the Rev. Ministers which we called to our assistance came up ye Day appinted and our Dissenting brethren appeard and opposed the Rev. Ministers which we had called to our assistance and they beat off ye fore noon Exercise yet notwithstanding all their opposition and allegations the Rev ministers did see their way clear to proceed in ye afternoon to ye work of ye day whereunto they were called

6^ly^ At a meeting of ye Inhabitants of ye town of South Hampton December ye 27, 1742, John Flanders was chosen Moderator for ye same meeting, at ye same meeting it was voted that we give ye Rev. Mr. William Parsons a call to settel in ye work of the gospel ministry among us. Voted in ye affirmative at ye same meiting

James George	Jon^a^ Watson
Jon^a^ Ferran	Saml Goodwin
Aaron Currier	Rogles Colby
David Goodwin	Roger Easman
David Colby	Jacob Colby
Daniel Goodwin	Robert Martain
Zacheus Colby	Micah Hoyt
Philip Challis	

enters their contrary Dissents against ye vote for calling and seteling ye Rev. Mr. William Parsons or any other man in ye work of ye ministry under their present curcomstances.

the meeting was adjourned from ye 27 Day of December 1742 to ye 3 Day of Jany 1742–3 the meeting was Readjourned from ye 3 Day of Jan. 1742–3 to y^s^ 17 day of ye presen Jany at 12 of ye clock.

At ye Readjournment of ye same meeting it was voted that the 23 Day of Feb. next is appinted to be a day of ordination among us. Voted in ye affirmative.

At ye same meeting John Ordway Thomas Merrill Joseph French and Abraham Brown was chosen a Committee to send letters to ye Rev. ministers and messengers to be assistant in gathering a church and in ordaining ye Rev. Mr. William Parsons in ye work of ye ministry among us. Voted in ye affirmative.

At ye same meeting ye Rev. Mr. Chusing Mr. Whiple Mr. Joseph Parsons Mr. Saml Parsons Mr. Fogg Mr. Webster Mr. Coffin were chosen a council to Carry on ye work of ye ordination among us. Voted in ye affirmative.

A true copy of ye votes and all ye Dissenters that lives above or to ye westward of Powers River.

Attest Reuben Dimond town clerk

7^ly^ We Call the Rev. Council to set ye day before ye ordination and we notified our Dissenting brethren that they might come and shew Reasons if any they had why ye minister should not be ordained, but before ye time appointed Came we heard that our Dissenting brethren had made Report that they would take of our Council for some were a kind to ye man that was to be ordained and others had given Judgment before, so we hearing of their Strategem and not being Ignorant of their Devices we considered it was eser to prevent a Desease then to cure it or to Keep an adversary out while he was out than to git him out when he is in, so we being forewarned we thought it best to be fore armed, so we call'd the town togeather again to chuse other ministers, but our Dissenting brethren was very Refractory and said What must you appint a place for us to set our Meeting house? no thats what we wont Do.

12^ly^ the Gent^l^men Committee that was appointed by his Excellency Governour and the Hona^ble^ his Majesties Council to view the lands and Settelments mentioned in ye petition of Joseph Bartlett and others came by your houses to our Meeting house about a mile below Powers River and they never vied ye situation of ye east end of ye town to see the Difficult sircomstances that them people labours under in going to ye Publick worship and so never considered whether we were capable to make a parrish or not but say it appears Reasonable to them if ye petitioners should be Incorporated into a parrish by meets and bounds and according to their boundarys they comes within a mile of our meeting house and so they have taken of all ye inhabitants that lives west of our meeting house saving four houses and so it appears to us that it will brake up an old parrish to a new one.

13^ly^ the petitioners petitioned for a parrish beginning at a white Ash tree by Powers River and from thence to fowllow Shapleys line so called till it comes to the head or Westerly part of Powers pond so called and then to Run South West to Haverhill line so called and from thence to follow Haverhill line to the province line, then to follow ye province line easterly to Powers River and so following s^d^ River to ye first mentioned bound and ye Gent^men^ Committee say they being attend by ye Selectmen of South hampton and Major Stevens being present to say for Kingston, In fact it appears to us that Major Stevens said well to save Kingston for he or they have cut doun their petition from ye head or westerly part of powers pond so called to ye South east corner of ye long Cove so called and not allowing ye petitioners to En-

clude any land or Settelments within ye line of their petition that Kingston claims but they have un Reasonably Entruded upon South hampton a lettel poor parish at ye best are much Inferiour to Kingston upper parish both as to men and Eastes.

14^ly^ the Gent^men^ Committee say that it appears to them that ye Curcomstances of ye petitioners are such that they cannot without greate Difficulty attend ye publick worship at South Hampton, we answer we had liberty to buld a Cassway on a mans land and accordingly we bult a Cassway and bult a bridge and there are severl Famlies that lives to ye west of Powers River that have all ways attended ye publick worship with us ever sence we have been Incorporated into a town and there are some that come several times to our meeting y^t^ lives above ye west end and ye other Inhabitants might come as well as their neighbours and we should have had a commodious highway before this time if they had not opposed us and put it by but now we have laid out a new highway from ye highway y^t^ leads from ye meeting house to a highway or publick Rhoad that leads from Kingston through ye west part of South hampton to Amsbury.

15 the gent^men^ Committee say it appears to them that ye petitioners cant be Joyned to any neighbouring place for their accommodation but it appears to us that they can or else where is that Inhabitants that belongs to Kingston that they have given libity to pole to this new parrish if they Desire it, if ye petitioners had set their meeting house higher up then there might have been some taken of ye upper end of South hampton and some of Kingston and have made a good parrish and not have broken up South hampton.

16^ly^ if our Dissenting brethren can git to Powers River for a Dividin line to make them a parish it will sartainly break up ours and we shall take it hard that an old parrish should be broke up for a new one for they will come within a mile of our meeting house and take off all ye houses most of our meeting house but foure and then our brethren at ye east end of ye town say ye meeting stands at one end of ye people and there going off at ye west end of ye town dont bring ye meeting house any nearer to them but makes them a great Deal more Charge to pay and they as fur from meeting as ever and they say if those men which were petitioners for ye town May go off, surly they that were non petitioners may go off also and so they will be annexed to Kingston parrish and then there are some of our brethren that lives on ye northerly part of the Town y^t^ say if they goes off at both ends of ye town then they will be annexed to Kingston lower parrish for it is Impossible that the middle part should support the Charges and then there are a few families that lives next to ye Province line that can in no wise Support the charges nor Do ye Duty of a town and we humbly Conceive that this Hon^able^ Court wont set them off to Joyn with Salisbury because this is a seprate Government and so them men are fitt for no body and so they are in that affair of all men ye most misrable

17^ly^ if twenty men in this town should Divide this town they will Encourage thirty in another town and them thirty will say if twenty can Divide a town surly thirty can and so they will goe on from bad to worse till they Grows Incorrigible, if these Examples should be tolerated in these our Dissenting brethren they will Corrupt other and if it should be followed by many it would prove ye Dissolution an Confution of touns parrishes and Churches for as sone as ye minor part sees they cant make a majority upon ye Major part they say we will have a meeting house and a minister of our own and so insted of having a Great many meeting houses and ministers in a littel time there wont be any for they cant possable be supported.

18^ly^ if this Hon^able^ court Should see fit in your Great wisdom set

off these petitioners according to ye bounderyes of ye Committee Report Then we Humbly pray that we might be annexed to ye town that we lays ajacent to for we cant in no wise support ye charges nor Do the Duty of a town.

19 We do Declear this Day to this Hon^able^ court that we have not willfully Endeavoured to take any Indirect way contrary to the law of our province to Defraud any brother [we wish our Dissenting brethren all well] we wish brotherly love might be with us and Continue, we wish that Grace Marcy and peace might be multiplied among us that the God of love and peace might Dweel with us, we wish all things might be done with Charity, we wish we might have a Quiet and peaceable Settlement ina Way of Righteousness that we might all be built to eternal life through Faith in Jesus Christ our lord.

20^ly^ by what has been all Ready offered we Doubts not but your Excellency and Honours in your great wisdom and Goodness will see Just Cause to Reverse ye vote and petition of our Dissenting brethren and accordingly Grant our Request.

REUBEN DIMOND et SAM FRENCH } Selectmen for South Hampton

South Hampton
Jan ye 14, 1745–6.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governour in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council Jan ye 15, 1745–6

the Petition of Sundry of ye Inhabitants of South Hampton living at ye East end of the town Humbly *Sheweth*,

Whereas in time past there was Sundry petitioners of ye Northerly part of Salisbury and Almsbury which by Runing ye Province Line was taken into ye province of New Hampshire which preferd a petition to this Honourable Court in order to obtain a town or parish and we your Humble Petitioners Did at ye Same time prefer a petition to this Honourable Court and Humbly offerd that we could in no wise joyn with them in any of their proceedings of that nature, but we petition'd that we might be annexed to Kinsington parrish but this Honourable Court in their great wisdom Did not see fit to grant our petition but Incorporated us with the other petitioners into a town Called by ye name of South Hampton but now we understand that there has been a Committee sent by this Honourable Court to view ye lands and Settelments of those petitioners that lives at ye west end of our town and that have made Report that it appears to them Reasonable that they with others should be Incorporated into a parrish by Meets and bounds and according to their butment to Powers River they comes within a mile of our Meeting house and they have taken of all ye Inhabitants that lives west of our

Meeting house save four houses and so they have brought ye Meeting house to one end of ye people and there are some famlys at ye east end of ye town that lives as far from meeting by ye Road as Most of them at ye west end of ye town and their going off Don't bring ye Meeting house any Nearer to us but it makes us a great Deal More Charge to pay and we are as far from Meeting as ever And we Humbly Conceive that if those men which were petitioners for ye town may go off that those men which were non petitioners may go off also.

Wherefore we your Humble petitioners which formily proferd a petition to this Honourable Court and some other of our Neighbors Humbly begs leave to revive our former petition and pray that we may be annexed to Kinsington parrish and there Do our Duty and there Injoy the priviledgs of towns men, so shall we as in Duty bound ever pray &c.

Jany ye 14, 1745–6

Sam^ll^ French
Ephraim Brown
Eliphilet Maxfield
Asa Flanders
Samuel Flanders
Abrahm Brown
Amos Page
Daniel Page
Jacob Fowler
Abner Fowler
Daniel Carter
Nathanel French
Caleb Clough
Humphrey Clough
Benjamin Brown

Petition of Mr. Thomas Fowler against a new parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqu Captain General and Governour in Cheif in and over his Majesties province of New hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable his Majesties Council Jany ye 15 1745–6.

The petition of sundry persons whose name are under Ritten humbly sheweth whereas we your humble petitioners being as we apprehend Encluded within ye line of a petition of sundry petitioners belonging to South hampton and there about which are about to be Incorporated into a parrish and we your humble petitioners humbly offer that we can in no wise joyn with them in any of their proceeding in that nature, for there are ye best part of twenty of these petitioners that some are moved out and others that are not able to Support ye Charges nor Do ye Duty of a parrish and there are eaight families that are Encluded within ye line of their petition that are Quakers and ye most of them ye best livers in ye line of their petition and they are Exempted by law from Ministry charges and ye Meeting house Don't stand in ye Right place it ought to be

moved furder up toward Kingston and there it would accommodate more people.

Jany ye 10, 1745–6

THOMAS FOWLLER
JOSEPH FOWLLER.

At a lagual Meeting of ye Inhabitants of ye town of South Hampton July ye 7th 1748 John Paige Esqr was chosen Moderator.

At ye same Meeting it was Consider'd that whereas there are a Number of persons that Lives at ye west end of this town that thinks they can better accommodate themselves by joyning with their Neighbours for a Meeting house then Constantly to Assemble with us and we being willing to shew them all Christian Regard and Kindness voted that all those persons that lives at ye west end of this town that have a Mind to go off shall have ye Liberty to pole of themselves and their Estates which they now have and joyne with their Neighbours in ye District for a parrish in all affairs provided they pole off or File a list of their Names with his Excellency the Governor within thirty Days from ye Day of ye Date hereof.

Voted in the affirmative.

A true Copy

Attest Reuben Dimond town clerk

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esquire Capt. General and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New hampshire in New England and to ye honrable his Majesties Council in General Court Assembled.

The petition of sundry whose Names are hereafter Subscribe humbly *seweth* that we your petitioners under stand that there are Certain men of Almsbury District and some of South Hampton that have in time past prefered a petition to this Honourable Court praying to be Incorporated into a parrish by mets and bounds begining at a white ash tree standing by Powers River and so to fowllor Shaples Line to ye west end of powers pond so called and then to Run South west to haverhill Line and then to foller haverhill line till it meets ye province line and then to foller ye province line Easterly to Powers River and then to fowller Powers River up to ye beginning and we your petitioners apprehend that we are Included within ye lines and boundrys of their petition and we humbly offer to this Hon^{able} Court that we cant in any wise Joyne with them for a parrish, for these Reasons. First their proceeding as to a Parrish have been very privet as to our Knowledge ever since ye year 1742 and they having given out word as we hear y^{t} we wear not worth asking to Joyne with them but if they could git their petition granted then they would order us as they see fit but God in his all wise Providence has furnished us

with a place for his Publick worship more convenant than it can be for us to be compeled to joyne with them we your petitioners have been at charge to promote ye Gospel of christ peaceably and it will be very prejudicial for us to stand in such a Relation with them.

Dated July 29, 1748

James Davis
Robert Stuart
Joseph Rogers
Samuel Stuart
Moses Davis
Philip Davis
his
Thomas X Davis
mark
Jacob Davis
Jonathan Carlton
Thomas Johnson
his
Jonathan X Ordway
mark
Joseph Ordway
William Collins
Francis Chase
Peter Colby
Jacob Challis

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt. General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire in New England &c.

Whereas the Sec^ry^ by your Excelency command Did Recommend a letter to us ye Select men of South Hampton Dated June ye 14th 1748 Signifying that ye Inhabitants of Almsbury District have set forth their unhappy Situation and they are Desirous y^t^ ye town would Set off a sufficient Number of Inhabitants to their assistance or else they would be an next to South Hampton &c that is what ye town cant in no wise agree to y^t^ ye District should be an next to ye town for ye Reasons Fowlering. 1st we apprehend that them men wont be Contented without a Nother Minister and two Ministers is what we cant possable Support among such a Small number of people and upon such a Narrow Strip of Land and we have several poor people among us and we have for several years past been involved in a soar and a greivious war wch has Created a great charge and what will be the Result there of we know not and it has pleased Almighty God in his all wise providence to visite many families among us with a soar and Long sickness which has caused great Expence for Physicians Nursing and other Nesicaries.

2^ly^ there wear thirty men or there about among us who at ye first erected our meeting house and laid out between three and four hundred pounds in that way and them men gave it up to ye town for ye towns use to make peace, so our contending brethren at ye west end of ye town paid Nothing toward that charge and we have built a passonage house and barn and fenced our passonage and there were Cartain men among us that Duge

a well for our Minister and Stoned it and there wear other generous men built a pound and gave that to ye town for ye towns use, so our Contending brethren paid Nothing toward Either of them and we have laid out a great Deal of money in purchasing high ways in ye town and we have got a high way that Leads Directly from our meeting house up among ye Inhabitants at ye west end of ye town and we have built a spacious bridge over ye River and made it a fine way and it is traveled by many of his Majesties good Subjects and our Contending brethren have no Need to complain for want of a way for they may come to meeting with the neighbors if they would and this may Inform your Excellency that these Extraordinary Charges we have been Exposed to.

3^ly^ if ye District should be annext to South Hampton we humbly Conceive that they will make a Majority and then they will oblige us to help them and pay our proportion with them in finishing their Meeting house which is only a frame with a few boards on it.

And build them a parsonage house and barn and Dig a well and buy them a parsonage and fence it which will in this Day Cost of our money near four thousand pounds old tennur as it has been Computed.

Now for these men of the District to Desire to be annext to South Hampton and make us bear such an Extraordinary charge with them when they never paid ye thousand^th^ part of a penny toward our Extraordinary Charges it appear to us to be an actually cheat and a piece of oppression and it is very unadequate and if your Excelency should be pleased to grant them men their Disire in this thing it would make a prodigious Quarrel and prove the Dissolution and Confution of our town and our Latter end will be worse then our beginning for ye annexing of them men to South Hampton cant be for the good of ye town, it Directly and surely tends in ye Natural Course of things to our utter Ruin and Destruction, the Subversion of our Constitution and it Deprives us of our just Rights and it lays Such a heavey yok upon our necks that we nor our children Cant bear.

4^ly^ our Contending brethren the Cheif men that oppose us signed our petition with us and we never Intended to make but one parrish and since they Retrograded and gon back from what they sign'd with us and if they had set their meeting house one mile or there about higher up in ye District they might have men enoufe to Joyn with them to make a good parrish and not have broke up South Hampton, but our contending brethren with some others of ye District have set up a frame of a meeting house just over ye Line at ye west end of our town where it would sut them and they think we are bar-

barous to Disire them to assemble with us and yet they would tak of a Number from us against their wills who sets Down easy with us and Count that no barbarity at all and if our Contending brethren think it hard to joyn with us against their wills then Consequently they may think it hard for our brethren who set down easy at ye first and went on chearfully with us in all our Extraordinary charges to be forced to Joyne with them against their wills and so we will force no man to go off from us but give every man his liberty to go or stay and since your Excellency has desired that we would set off a sufficient number to their assistance we Know no Number more sufficient to go off than they that are willing

RICHARD COLLINS jun.
RICHARD CURRIER
BENJAMIN BROWN
} Select men of South Hampton

South Hampton papers Setting off 28 persons to a New Town.

Province of New Hampshire } To South hampton July the 18th 1748 his Excelency Bening Wentworth Governor &c.

Excelent Sir.

After Returning you hearty thanks for your care and kindness toward us we once more make bold to trouble you with a few lines &c.

And first of all wee woold mention to your Excelency the Late proceeding of South hamton in a meeting on the 7th instant at which meeting they past a voat as folloeth (without the Least regard or reference to your Excelencys Direction in your Late Letter) with a plasable pretence of christianity gieves Liberty to all persons that lieve att the west end of the town to pole of within thirty days with their Estates that they now have in which they have no regard to any Lands or Estate own'd by any persons that are not inhabitants in the town notwithstanding there is Considerable of Lands ownd by persons that are not inhabitants who have been with us in all our trouble and charg and we doubt not but that they woold be yet with us had they the Liberty.

but however South hamton might flater themselves that few or none woold pole off on such a footing as they put it yet by the good provedence of God wee whose names are under written by your Excelencys leave are resolved to pole off in order to be incorporated in to a Parrish with those of the des-

trict within the Limets or boundaries of the Com^tees Reporte unless your Excellency Should provide better for us.

Jonathan Farren	Robert Martin
Micah Hoyt	James George
Thos Tuxbery	David Colby
Thos Carter	Zacheus Colby
Benja Carter	Jonathan Kimball
Orlando Carter	Aaron Currier
Benj^a Kimball	Thos Jewel
John Carter	Phillip Challis
Saml Carter	Daniel Goodwin
Jacob Colby	Thos Greenfield
Rogles Colby	Nathanel Ash
Nathan^l Colby	Abraham Merrill
Jonathan Watson	David Goodwin
Roger Easman	Zebulon Farren
Saml Goodwin	John Eliot

P. N. Hamp These Certify that the List of the mens names above mentioned were entred with his Excellency the Governour & lodged in the Sec^y's office the 2^d day of August 1748.

Attest^r Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

On the Charter is to be Enter'd the Vote of South Hampton July 7th 1748

Polled off July 18 1748	28 persons
Polled off Aug 1 1748	2 more
	30

To his Excellency Benning Wenworth Esqr Capt. General and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council in General Court Assembled.

the petition of the Inhabitants of South Hampton humbly *Sheweth* that whereas it was voted at a Meeting held at South Hampton July ye 7th 1748 that all ye Inhabitants that lives at ye west end of this Town that have a mind to go off shall have ye liberty to poll off themselves and their Estats and Joyne with their Neighbors in ye District for a parrish in all affairs and there was no provision made in that vote for them that polld off to make and keep their proportion of ye high ways in good Repair—

Wherefore we your humble petitioners humbly Addresses this Honourable Court and pray that when ever this Honourable Court shall poll them men off to Joyne with ye District that they may be orderd to make and Repair their proportion of ye highways in ye town as they have Done in time past and that ye new parrish may at their Election Day for chusing parrish offeciers Elect one Surveyor or more to order that affair

and keep ye ways in good Repair from time to time as occasion may Require.

So shall we as in Duty bound ever pray &c.

RICHARD COLLINS, BENJAMIN BROWN Jun., RICHARD CURRIER } Selectmen for South Hampton

Dated July ye 20th 1748

Israel Dimond
Samuel Currier
Joseph Chandler
Thomas Merrill
John Flanders
Saml Barnard
Samuel French
Jacob Fowler

Reuben Dimond
Henry Currier
Elijah Rowell
Nathanel Merril
Joseph French
Eliphelet Merrill
Er Colby

Jon^a^ Watson & Roger Easman pole off from South Hampton to the New Town.

Province of New Hampshire } South Hamton August 1, 1748 To his Excelency Bening Wintworth Governor &c.

Excelente Sir

we having tak^n^ into Consideration the ill sircumstances that we mus be under in Case we should not take the Liberty to pole of when we may, we Resolve with y^r^ Excelencies leve agreable to the Liberty Granted us by the voate of South hamton July 7th 1748 to pole off and desire therefore that our names may be rec'd on file by your Excelency and youl yett further oblig your humble Serv^ts^

JONATHAN WATSON
ROGER ESMAN

Selectmen of South Hampton about New Town's Petition & Charter, &c.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. General and Governour in chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council

The Petition of Sundery of the Inhabitants of South Hampton Humbly Sheweth that whereas it was voted at a meeting held at South Hampton July the 7 1748 that all those persons that lives at ye west end of this Town that have a mind to Go

off and joyn with their Neighbors in the District for a parrish should have liberty and there being no provision made in that vote for them polers to make and maintain their proportion of their high ways, Therefore your petitioners aply them selves to your Excellency and Honours and pray that if your Excellency and Honours should see it Reasonable to set them polers to New town that they make and maintain their proportion of ye high ways in this town and your petitioners pray that New town at their Election Day for chusing town officiers may chuse a Surveyor or Surveyors to see that their high ways be kept in good Repair from time to time as occasion may Require and In as much as them polers had Liberty to file a list of their names with his Excellency the Gouvernour within thirty Days and they never served our Select men with a copy and we Dont know that they have filde a list to this Day, therefore we pray that they may pay to us two assessments, One made in the year 1748 and the other in ye year 1749

So shall we as in Duty bound ever pray

REUBEN DIMOND, JOSEPH FRINCH } Selectmen for South Hampton

Feb. 6, 1749–50

Abner Morrill in behalf of South Hampton says the s^d^ town is content that New toun should Comence Lower Down than their charter now is by a Line from a School house that stands on a highway that leads from South Hampton to Kingston from s^d^ School house to run South to the curve line & from the school House Northly till it meets a high way Leading to Powo river & then on the East side of ye road or highway to s^d^ Powow river then to Shapleys line on ye same Course.

Thomas Merrill
John Ordway
John Flanders
Saml Barnard
Semeon Morel
Abner Morrill
Henery Currier
Samuel Currier
Nathanel Merrill
Prince Flanders
Joshua Clough

Little Harbour 13th Decr 1749

Sir:

You are only to Indorse on the charter of New Town as a record from your office

The Vote at South Hampton to poll off Such of their Inhabitants as are returned 18th July 1748 being 28 & Aug 1st 1748, 2—30 in all

This is an act of South Hampton to Enable Newtown to bear the Charges of their town the better and The Act of Government to Incorporate S^l^ Town has nothing to do with it, only to preserve the record to prevent disorders hereafter.

You will take my fee £5 N. Tenor.

I am Sr.
Your hum Servt
B WENTWORTH

Coll[o] Atkinson

The first meeting is to be with thirty days after the date of the charter and then annually For ever the last Wednesday March

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Rough Draft of an order in Council for Polling of 30 *South Hampton men to N. Town as Voted in Council* 22[d] *March* 1749

Province of New Hampshire } George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Brittain France & Ireland King Defender of the faith &c.

To all People to whom the Presents Shall come Greeting.

Whereas The Town of South Hampton within our Province of New Hampshire aforesaid for Diverse good & Laudable motives & Considerations thereunto moving Did Voluntarily at a Town meeting held in Said Town by Inhabitants thereof on the 7th Day of July Anno Domini 1748 Pass a Vote in the following words viz: "That all those Persons that Live at the West End of this Town that have a mind to goe off Shall have the Liberty to Poll of themselves & their Estates which they now have & joyn with their Neighbours in the District for a Parish in all affairs Provided they Poll off or file a List of their names with his Excelency the Governour within thirty Days from the Date hereof. And for as much as Jonathan Farren Michael Hoit Tho[s] Tuxbury Thomas Carter Benj[a] Carter Orlando Carter Benj[a] Kimball John Carter, Sam[l] Carter, Jacob Coleby, Ruggles Colby Nath[l] Coleby, Jon[a] Watson, Roger Eastman, Sam[l] Goodwin, Robert Martin, James George, David Coleby Zacheus Coleby, Jonathan Kimball, Aron Currier, Tho[s] Jewell, Phillip Challis, Daniel Goodwin Theo Greenfield Nathaniel Ash Abraham Merrill, David Goodwin, Zebulon Farren, & John Eliot all Inhabitants in the West End of Said Town of South Hampton, Did file a List of their names with B. Wentworth Esq. our Governor of our said Province & the same was filed in the Secy's office of our afores[d] Province on the Second Day of August 1748 within the thirty days in the above recited Vote of the aforesaid Town of South Hampton meantioned, and agreeable to the Intent & tenor thereof

Now know ye that for and in Consideration of the above mentioned vote & at the request of the Several Parties therein Concerned We have tho't fit by further the advice of our Trusty & well beloved Benning Wentworth Esq[r] our Governour & of our Council of our s[d] Province of N. Hamps. to order & ordain that the aforesaid Jonathan Farren Michael &c with theirs & each of their Estates they now have in said Town of South Hampton be & hereby are order'd Declared & ordained to be Polled & set off from acting or Voting with the Town of South Hampton afores[d] in any of their Town affairs excepting what does or may relate to the repairing or mending the high ways within the Limits of the said Town of South Hampton afores[d] with respect to which affairs they are to act & be governed as tho no Vote or order had Past thereon and are hereby together with the Estates they have in South Hampton as also all Persons that shall succeed them in any or either of them in the improving of said estates Declared to be Polled off & annexed to Newtown within our Province afores[d] there to Vote & act with s[d] Newtown in all their Town affairs as fully to all Intents & Purposes as any other the Inhabitants of said Town can or may do excepting what dos or may relate to the mending or repairing the Highways within the Limits of Newtown which they and Each of them are

hereby Exempt from they having the Liberty of Voteing with & are Subject to the Legal Directions of the Town of South hampton afores^{d}, of all which all Persons concerned are to take Due notice hereof & Govern themselves accordingly.

In Testimony whereof we have Caused the Seal of our Said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness B. Wentworth Esqr our Governour & Comander in Chieff of our Prov. of N. Hamp afores^{d} this 22^{d} Day of March in the Year of our Lord Christ 1749 & in the 23^{d} year of our reign

By his Excellencys com^{d} with advice of Council.

Supplemental Charter of New town.

Province of New Hampshire } George the Second by the Grace of God &c.

To all people to whom these presents shall come

Whereas by our Charter bearing date ———— We have thot fit by & with the advice of our Trusty & well beloved B. W———— Esqr &c. to Incorporate Certain of our well beloved Subjects residing within our Province of New Hampshire on a tract of Land on the Eastern & Southern boundary of our said Province by the name of South Hampton & otherwise Call'd & bounded as by the Charter of Incorporation May more fully appear and whereas the Inhabitants of our said toun of South Hampton for diverse Laudable motives & Considerations, did Voluntarily at a Public toun meeting held in said town on the set off Certain Inhabitants & their Estates within the Limits & Charter of Incorporation of s^{d} town of South Hampton the better to Enable a Number of Inhabitants residing within our said Province & lately Incorporated into a township by the name of Newtown, to maintain the Gospel among them & support the other necessary Charges of a town Provided the said Inhabitants did give us their Names into the Secretarys office within days after such Vote & Inasmuch as A, B, C, &c. have regularly given their Names into the s^{d} office within the time Limited & agreeable to the said Vote of S. Hampton

Know ye that for the Considerations before mentioned, we have tho't fit by & with the advice of our trusty & well beloved B. W. Esqr. & of our Council of our s^{d} Province to order & ordain that the said Inhabitants of South Hampton herein recited & their Estates agreeable to the vote of said town are & shall be Set off to the town of Newtown.

And the said A. B. C. &c are hereby set off from Acting with South Hampton in their toun affairs, & annexed to Newton have full powers & to Vote & act with s^{d} Newton in their town affairs as fully to all intents & purposes as any of the other inhabitants, of which all persons Concerned are to take due Notice & Govern themselves accordingly.

Given Witness B. W. &c.

Petition from Almsbury district.

To His Excellency Bening Wintworth Esqr Capt General & Governour In Cheif in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire, To the Honrd Councel In s^{d} Province.

May it Pleas your Excellency and Honors,

Whereas we the Subscribers Living In *Almsbury District* on the Southerly side thereof and Nigh the Nor Westerly corner of Newton are Nigh Naibors to Capt Follinby & belong to Haverhill feet company & live much better to Pay our taxes with Haverhill District and attend the Publick Worship at the Rev^{d} Mr. Cushings meeting house than we are Like to be By being Set of to Kingston or to Newton: In Removing the Bounds of Newton further west to take us in may serve the Interest of sum But we are Humbly of the opinion that it will Disoblidge more. Our Humble petition to your Excellency & Hon^{rs} is that we may by no means be In cluded In that Town we haveing advised with Haverhill District and Considering we are so much Handier to that Place then Else where theay are willing to Receive us. We humbly & Earnestly Beg we may with our Estates be joyned to Haverhill district When ever you shall be pleas^{d} to establish them In a toun or Re New their District act and we shall Look on our selves In duty ever bound to pray &c

NATHAN HALE
JONATHAN CALTON
AARON STEVENS
THOMAS JOHNSON

[No date.]

[Indorsed]—"The petitioners did belong to Amesbury district, and were not as the bearer says, included in Newtown; so care must be taken not to exclude them, in Cushing's parish. B. W."]

NOTTINGHAM.

[Incorporated 10 May, 1722. ED.]

Original Charter of Nottingham, 10 May, 1722.

Geo rge by the Grace of God of Great Britain France & Ireland King, Defender of the Faith &c.

To all People to whom these presents shall come Greeting, Know ye, That we of our Special Knowledge and meer motion for the Due encouragement of Settling a new Plantation by and with the advice & Consent of our Council have Given and Granted and by these presents as far as in us Lies do Give and Grant in Equall Shares unto Sundry

of our Beloved Subjects whose Names are Entred in a Schedule hereunto annexed That Inhabit or Shall Inhabit within the Said Grant within our Province of New Hampshire all That Tract of Land within the Following Bounds viz: To begin at Dover Westerly Corner Bounds Running along Exeter Northerly line West and by North two miles then along Exeter Head Line South west half a point more Southerly one mile and Three Quarters and from thence upon a West North West point of the Compas Ten miles into the Countrey, Then to Begin again at the afores[d] Dover Westerly Corner Bounds and Run North East half a point more Easterly Four miles and a quarter along Dover Head line Then upon a North West point half a Point more Northerly, Thirteen miles into the Countrey and from that Bounds upon a straight line to the End of the aforesaid Ten Mile line And That the Same be a Town Corporate by the Name of Nottingham, To the persons afores[d] forever, To have and to hold the said Land to the said Grantees and their Heirs & assigns forever and to Such Associates as they shall admit upon the Following Conditions.

That every proprietor build a Dwelling House within Three years & Settle a family therein and break up three Acres of Ground and plant & Sow the Same within four years and pay his proportion of the Town Charge when & So often as Occasion Shall Require the Same.

2[ly] That a Meeting House be built for the Publick worship of God within the Said Term of four years.

3[ly] That upon Default of any particular proprietor in Complying with the Conditions of this charter upon his part, Such Delinquent proprietor Shall forfeit his Share to the other proprietors which Shall be Disposed of according to the Major vote of the said Commoney at a Legal meeting.

4[ly] That a Proprietors Share be Reserved for a Parsonage another for the first Minister of The Gospel, Another for the Benefit of a School

Provided nevertheless that the Peace with the Indians Continue during the afores[d] Term of Three Years, But if it Should so happen that a warr with the Indians Should Comence before the Expiration of the afores[d] Term of Three years, The said Term of Three years shall be allowed to the Proprietors after the Expiration of the warr for the Performance of the afores[d] Conditions—Rendering & paying therefor to us our heirs & successors or such other officer or Officers as Shall be appointed to Receive the Same the Annual Quit Rent or acknowledgement of one ear of Indian Corn in the Said Town on the Twentieth day of December yearly forever, Resarving also unto our Heirs & Successors all mast Trees growing on the Said Tract of Land (according to the acts of Parliament made & provided) And for the better Order Rule & Government of the said Town we do by these presents for our selves our Heirs & Successors Grant unto the said Men & Inhabitants or those that shall Inhabit the s[d] Town That yearly & Every year upon the Last Tuesday in the month of March forever shall Meet to Elect & chuse by the Major part of them Constables Selectmen and other Town officers according to the Laws & usage of our afores[d] Province for the year ensuing, with Power & Priviledges & authority of other Towns and Town officers within our afores[d] Province have & Enjoy.

In Testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of our Said Province to be hereunto annexed. Witness Samuel Shute Esqr. our Governour and Command[r] in Cheef of our said Province at our Town of Portsmouth the Tenth Day of May in the Eighth Year of our Reign, Annoque Domini 1722

SAM[ll] SHUTE

By his Excellency's Command wth advice of the Council.

Rich[d] Waldron Cler. Con.

Note by John Farmer, Esq.

This Charter of Nottingham I found among the Waldron Papers in 1828. It was supposed to be irrecoverably gone, as appears from a Petition of Col. Peter Gilman to the General Assembly 1783 wherein he says "the Record of the original Grant of Nottingham being by the act of God consumed when Secretary Waldron's office was burned (and no attested copy thereof extant" &c. Now this is the original having the autograph of Gov. Shute.

Whereas Mr Shem Drown of boston one of the proprietors of Nottingham haveing obtained a grant of s^d Propriatie of a priveledge for building a mill and of the Previledge of the whole falls on the South branch of North River near Bow Street and also a grant of fifty Acres of Land adjoining to s^d falls, which fifty acres of Land is Laid out according To grants, begining at the foot of the falls on the East Side of s^d falls at a hemlock Tree marked S. D. from thence Runing East and be South thirty rods To a hemlock Tree marked with S. D. from thence running South & be East one hundred rods To a beach Tree marked S. D. from thence runing west to the River to a Maple Tree marked S. D. Then begining again at the foot of the falls on the west side at a hemlock Tree mark'd S. D. from thence running west and be north fifty rods To a pine Tree Mark'd S. D. from thence running South west and be South one hundred rods to a beach tree Mark'd S. D. from thence runing East & be South to the river Laid out this fourteenth Day of May one thousand Seven hundred & thirty

by us JOSEPH HALL, EDWARD HALL } Lott layers

A true Coppy Taken from Nottingham Record

Attes^r Peter Gilman Prop^r Cler.

Indorsed, "Nottingham Papers March 2^d 1732-3."

We the Subscribers being interested in the Land thro' which it is supposed the High way petitioned for, from Nottingham to New-Market will pass do hereby Signify our Desire to have ye s^d High Way laid out & confirmed as a Publick High way & our willingness to give land Sufficient for s^d High way wherever it may be laid out thro' our Lotts.

Joseph Hall
Moses Coffin
Robert Barber
Christopher Robinson
Saml Sinkler
Sm^l Stevens
Benjamin Sanborn
Theophilus Hardie
Jonathan Colcord
Steven Liford
Richard Malloon ?
James Maston
Saml Hilton
Robert Pike
Samuel Mighell
Richard Clark
Isaac Marston
Winthrop Hilton
John Perkins
Richard Sinkler
Fitz William Sargent
Nem^y Gilman
Jam^s Gilman
Thos Gilman
Water Neall
Nathl Talyer
Nathl Pees

Petition of Capt. Peirce and Dr. Rogers.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr Govr & Comander in cheif in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamps^re^ And to the Honble the Councill & the Representatives of said Province.

The Petition of the Proprietors of ye Town of Nottingham Humbly *Sheweth*

That the Proprietors & Inhabitants of s^d^ Town, are under very great Difficulties & Disadvantages for want of a Suitable Road to a convenient landing Place For the High way already laid out is not only much longer than is necessary, but, notwithstanding a very considerable expence, the Propriet^rs^ have been at in clearing & Bridging the same it yet remains impassable for loaded Carts unless when the Rivers are very low, and for as much as there is already a pretty good cart way (Comonly called Hall's way) four or five miles from the landing place at New Market towards Notingham which if continued thro' that part of Exeter which is between Notingham and ye Parish of New Market, would be above three miles nearer, & on every other acc't more convenient. They humbly therefore pray that there may be a Highway allowed & laid out thro' ye above s^d^ part of Exeter & New Market, which would be of great advantage not only to Notingham, but to some of ye New Towns Settling above it, and your Petitioners shall ever pray &c

THO^s^ PEIRCE
NATH^l^ ROGERS } Com^tee^

Portsm^o^ Sept. 23, 1731

In Council Septr 23^d^, 1731

The within Petition Read, and Voted that a hearing be had thereon the third day of the next session of the Gen^ral^ Assembly & that the Petitioners serve The Town of Exeter wth a copy thereof and of this order a month before the day of the hearing by leaving the same wth one of the Select men of the Said Town that so the said Toun may appear & Shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the s^d^ Petition Should not be granted

R. Waldron Sec^y^

Eod^m^ Die.

In the house of Representatives.

the above vote Read and Concurred and likewise the Petitioners serve those persons thro whose Land Said high way may goe with a Copy hereof to appeare at the Day & Time above

James Jeffry Cle^r^ Ass^m^

In Council Septr 24th 1731

Read & Concurred wth the amendment

R. Waldron Sec^y^

The same day

Assented to

J. BELCHER

Nottingham Petition and Votes thereon.

In Counc^{l} March 6th 1732–3

Upon the Petition of Nottingham Proprietors for a High Way &c. Voted that the Prayer of the Petition be granted, and that the Town of Exeter lay out the said Highway forthwith, as Commodiously as may be for the Town of Nottingham & make a return thereof To the Town Clerk of Exeter, to be recorded as usual in such Cases. Provided Nevertheless that the Said Town of Exeter be at no Charge in building or repairing the Bridge in said High way over Lamprey river, for ten years next following, and Provided also that the Said Town of Exeter be at no charge for purchasing any land for accommodating the said Way below Lamprey River and that Nottingham be at no charge in purchasing any land for the same above said river.

R. Waldron Sec^{y}

M^{ch} 6th In house of Representatives read and Concurred

George Walton Cl^{r} pro tem

Same day Consented to

J. Belcher

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esquire Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Honourable his Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province

The Petition of the Inhabitants and Resident Proprietors of the Town of Notingham Humbly Sheweth

That whereas your said Petitioners have for Sundry years Past Resided in said Town and have for a Great Part of the Time been Destitute of a Preacher of the Gospel among us the cause whereof being chiefly our Inability to afford a suitable Maintainance for a Minister we being but a small Number although the Proprietors were obliged to Settle a family upon Each Right which if it had been Done would have been a Number Sufficient to have Supported a Minister for the Benefit of the Town, but since far the Greatest Part are non Resident and many of them Live out of this Province it cannot but be Highly Reasonable that as they have a Share in the advance of the Common Interest of the Town and it being Consistant with their Votes at Sundry Meetings and also the Most Likely Method to advance the worth of their Lands that they should bear som Suitable Proportion of the charge of a Minister till such time as the Inhabitants shall be able to Bear the Burden alone, we make bold therefore Humbly to Petition your Excellency and Honours to Pass an act to make the lands of such non Resident Proprietors as neglect to Pay such Proportion as to your wisdom shall seem meet to Lay upon them Lyable to be taken by Destraint in Case they do not Pay such assessments and seeing it may be for the Glory of God

the Interest of Religion and the Benefit of your Petitioners we humbly beg that this or some thing more Proper may be Done as to your wisdom Shall appear moste Expedient for the Remedy of the Difficulties we Labour under and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c.

From Notingham this 7th Day of November Anno Domini 1738

John Harvey	Simon Beird
Saml Goodhue	James Lukes
Moses Norris	Frances Harve
Nathan Pilsbury	William Kilce
Andrew Luckes	William Morison
John Cralton	David Morrison
Abraham ——— ?	Natt ——— ?
Rice Rowel	William Neall
Robairt Baird	Robt Harvey

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Honle His Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened.

The Inhabitants of Nottingham in said Province Take this Opportunity Thankfully to acknowledge your Goodness in Sending and Supporting a Number of Men in Years Past for our Safeguard and Defence in this Time of War. And altho' we might from thence Infer your Good Disposition to Help us for the future yet in order to your being more fully Informed of our Circumstances we would Humbly offer to the Consideration of this Honorable Court some of the Difficulties and Dangers we find our selves Exposed to in this Time of War.

Our Settlements are Remote one from another in a Mountainous and Broken Country our Fields are Generally Encompassed about with Trees and Bushes which Continually Exposes us to the Danger of being Surprized by the Enemy while about our Daily Labour our Common Roads and High ways are no Less Dangerous to Pass; We Live open to a Wide Wilderness which surrounds us on all sides by which means the Enemy may come undiscovered very near our Garrisons which we have hardly men enough to Defend our Number being now very Small many having already Removed out of the Town and others Seem so much Discouraged that we fear our Numbers will be much Less in the Ensuing Summer than they are at present which has a Tendency to make our Burden Still the Heavier which is already almost unsupportable we have Never Desired Needlessly to be a Burden to the Government Neither

have we Ever before in this manner apply'd for Relief but being now convinced more than Ever of the Danger we are Likely to be Exposed to we cannot but think it Needfull for us to be Importunate with Your Excellency and Honours to grant us Such Large assistance as our Necessitous Circumstances may Require without which we fear we shall be obliged to Retreat for the Safety of our Selves and Families tho' it must be with the Greatest Regret that we Leave our Settlements which we have Cultivated with much Toil and Labour.

May it Pleas your Excellency and Honours to take the Premises into your Wise Consideration and if it be Consistent with your Pleasure and for the Benefit of the Province in General as well as your Petitioners in Particular to Keep this Town we Humbly Pray that there may be Speedy Provision made for the Support of Forty or Fifty Men to be sent up Early in the Spring and Kept Here for the Safeguard and Defence of the Inhabitants Here and that Such Stores as may be needful for them may be conveyed up by sleding the Knowledge of which as it would be Likely to Prevent some from Removing out of Town So it would be a means to Encourage and strengthen us all who are very Sensible that we cannot Long Support our Selves Here without Such assistance from the Government as Shall Enable us to Go about our Labour and Business in some Degree of Safety which we Hope you will Freely Provide for and your Petitioners Shall as in Duty Bound Ever Pray &c.

Nottingham Jan^{r} 21st 1747

ISRAEL BARTLETT, ROBERT HARVEY } Selectmen of Nottingham in Behalf and by order of the Toun

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At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Nottingham Decr ye 8th 1747 Voted that the Select men Draw up a Petition to be Prefered to the General Court to Pray that there may be Suitable Provision made for our Relief under the Difficulties of the war and that Joshua Peirce Esqr be Impowered and he is hereby Desired to carry in s^{d} Petition and Do what may be need full to obtain s^{d} Relief

Israel Bartlett Toun clerk

A true Coppy pr.

At a Meeting of ye Freeholders & Inhabitance of Nottingham Held March ye 27th 1750

Voted that ye South westerly Corner of Nottingham be set off as a Parish & Bounded as followeth Begining at a Cartain tree between the fifth & Sixth Range No. 21 being at ye Lower end of said Range thence Runing South West to Chester line thence Runing on said Chester west North West to a Pitch pine tree being ye Southwesterly corner of said Notting^{m} thence Running North East & by North on ye head of said Nottingham to the Line between the 5th & 6th Range thence Running East South East on said line to ye Bounds first mentioned & voted to ye In-

habitance of said land all Privileges belonging to a Parish as much as in us Lyes. The above vote past in ye afirmative
March ye 29th 1750, a Coppy Exam^d^

Robt Harvey town Clerk

At a Meeting of ye freeholders & Inhabitance of Nottingham held March ye 26th 1751
Voted that their be ye Sum of one Hundred pound old Tenor Raised on ye Town Including all Ratable Poles & Estats within ye Bounds of ye original Grant of ye Towne Exclusive of the church men to be Laid out for ye Support of a Minister or Ministers of ye Gospel to be agreed with by a Committee to be chosen at this Meeting to Preach in said town & ye Money to be Raised as afores^d^ on those Living in that part of ye town called ye South west Parish to be Expended in Supporting a Minister to Preach amongst them in Such Place as they shall agree upon; and ye money to be Raised on ye Rest of ye Town to be Expended in Supporting a Minister to preach at or near ye Block House yet this vote is not to be construed or Intended to Extend Either to Revoke or alter ye validity or Insufficiency of the title or Grant of those who Inhabit that Part of ye town which they apprehend to be set off a Seperate Parish but that Matter to Remain in all other Respects as if this vote had never been Past.
The above Vote past in ye affirmative
March ye 30th 1751. A Coppy Exam^d^

Robt Harvey town Clerk

At a Meeting of ye freeholders & Inhabitants of Notting^m^ held March ye 31st 1752
Voted that Whatsoever shall be Raised on those who Inhabit that Part of ye Town Called South west Parish for ye Charge of ye Meeting house be Refunded or paid bake to that People at Such time as they shall Build a Meeting house there, to be Raised on ye other Part of the Town & paid them towards their meeting house with Reasonable Interest
A Copy Att^s^ Robt Harvey town Clarke

Province of New Hamp^re^ } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hamp^r^

To the Honble His Majestys Council and House of Representatives in Genl Assembly convened, July 25th 1754

Humbly Shews Thomas Simpson in behalf of the Inhabitants of the Town of Nottingham in said Province and agent for the said Inhabitants That by the fires in the woods the last Spring great damage was done to Most of the Inhabitants afores^d^, whereby they are much Impoverished That in consequence of the *torch* of war with the Indians the Spring past and this Summer they have been much impeded in their Business, That they apprehend they are overdone in the Proportion to the Province Tax—Wherefore your Petitioner in be-

half of s[d] Inhabitants Pray that they may be eased this year of the Province Tax or such part thereof as may be tho't Just and reasonable and your Excellency and Honours will Indulge your Petitioners with an oppertunity to enforce this Petition and assign the Reasons for the granting the Prayer thereof and your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall every Pray.

THOMAS SIMPSON

July 25th 1754

Prov. N. Hamp[re] In Council July 25th 1754
read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon[ble] the Gen[l] Assembly
Theodore Atkinson Sec[y]

Province of } To his Excelency Bening Wentworth Esqr.
New Hamp[re] } Governour in chief in & over the Province aforesaid (in Counsel)

The Petition of the Inhabitance and freeholders of the Sow west part of Nottingham Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners wear set of by a vote of the Town of Nottingham as a Parish in the year 1750 at their annual meeting and were Bounded as followeth Viz: Begining at a Certain tree between the fifth and sixth Ranges in the third Division of Lotts in s[d] Towne No. 21 at the Lower end of said Ranges then Runing S. West to Chester Line being about five Miles, thence Runing on s[d] Chester Line West North West to a Pitch Pine tree which is the South westerly corner of Nottingham, thence Runing north East and by north on the head of Nottingham about five miles to the line between the 5th & 6th Range then running East South East on s[d] Line to the Bounds first mentioned. The aforesaid Tract of Land being about six Miles square was voted of as a Parish to the inhabitance & freeholders of said Land with all Priviledges belonging to a Parish as much as in them Lyes.

And in March 1751 Their was money Rais'd on all the inhebetence of Nottingham Except the Church men and it was then Voted that what was paid by those men that Lived in the South West Parish (so call'd) should be expended in supporting a Minister to Preach the Gospel among them

And in March 1752 at the annual meeting there was a Large sum of Money Rais'd and your Petitioners were to have the money that was paid by your Petitioners to be expended among us; And money hath ben raised yearly ever since and we have Receiv'd nothing for our Money Except one Days Preaching and about three weekes schooling for six years, for your Petitioners not being incorporated into a Parish only by the Votes of the Town were not able to chuse any Parish officers to Re-

ceive the money and to lay it out altho' the Town are willing we should have it as soon as we are incorporated and as preaching the Gospel and teaching the children are matters of Great importance to all his Majesties Good Subjects and for many other Reasons which you in your wisdom are sensible of that will forward the Settleing and Promote Good order in a Place,

We your Petitioners Earnestly Pray you would be pleas^{d} to incorporate us and Grant us Parrish Priviledges.

Nottingham Feb^{ry} 23^{d} 1756

Jonathan Longfellow	John Batchelder
Levi Dearborn	Nathan Tilton
Nathaniel Batchelder	David Tilton
Nathaniel Batchelder Junr.	Timothy Sanborn
Thomas Brown	Coffin Sanborn
Ephraim Pettengill	Samuel Page
Isaac Mason	Nathl Healey Jun.
Daniel Kelley	Daniel Marston
Ruben Masteen	Jeremiah Dearborn
Theophilus Griffin	Steven Batchelder
Green Longfellow	Benjn Batchelder
Eliphalet Grifien	Abraham Drake
Isaac Shepard	

Petition June 28th 1765 *for a separate Parish.*

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governour Commander & Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire And Vice Admiral of the same, The Honourable His Majestys Counsil & House of Representatives for s^{d} Province Convened.

The humble petition of us the Subscribers being Freeholders and Inhabitants of the South West Parish in Nottingham (so call'd) Humbly *shews*, That whereas your petitioners Lives many of them to the Distance of eight and Some ten miles from the meeting house which makes it very Difficult for us or our families to attend the public worship of God att that place and as your petitioners apprehend their Number is equal or above many Parishes that have been sett off in this province We therefore humbly pray that you would please to sett us off a distinct Parish invested with all the privileges of other Parishes within this Province according to the following bounderies (which bounderies is agreeable to A Vote of the town of Notingham Held att the Meeting House in s^{d} Nottingham on the third thursday of april 1765) viz beginning att the bounds between the 9th & 10th Lotts in the first Range of the 3^{d} Division And to Extend to the head Line of Notingham Joining to Allenstown (so call'd) then to begin att the bounds

between the 21st. & 22d Lotts in the Second Range and to Extend to the sd head Line and Likewise including the whole of the 3d 4th 5th & sixth Ranges of the sd 3d Division with all the Lands on the westerly side of pleasant pond including the whole of the farms in the 7th & 8th Range that Joins to the road that Leads from Notingham Meeting House to Epsom Line. Also the whole of the Hundred Acre Lotts in Bow street on the Southwesterly side including Josiah Sawyers Lott being the original Lott of Archibald Macfadvix from thence to the head of sd Bow Street. Your Petitioners therefore Humbly prays that in your Great Wisdom and Goodness you would please to take this our prayer under your wise consideration and act on it as you may think proper and your petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c.

Notingham June ye 17th 1765

Saml Leavitt
Obadiah Marston
Thos Simpson
Eliphelet Grifeen
Abraham True
Isaac Shepard
Samuel Tilton
Peter Batchelder
Robert Cram
Patten Simpson
Nathaniel Batchelder Jun.
Thomas Brown
John Batchelder
Moses Thomson
Saml Hoyt
Peter Leavitt
Ephraim Pettengill
Eliphelet Marston
Theo Griffin
Reuben Marston
Benjamin Cotton
Saml Leavit Jun.
Samuel Marston
Joshua Stevens
Jeremiah Sanborn
Joseph Marston
Reuben Brown
Nathan Grifen
Reuben Marston
Theophilus Griffin Jun.
Samuel Winslow
Nathanael Meloon
Benjamin Page
Daniel Page
Samuel Perkins
Josiah Chase
Moses Chase
John Gill
Nemiah Cram
Joseph Graves
Jedediah Prescutt
David Batchelder
Josiah Prescott
Samuel Pulsifer
Josiah Sanborn
Daniel West
Benjamin Hilyard
Benjamin Beachelder
Israel Clifford
John Robinson
Joseph Roberts
Joshua Young
Jeremiah Glidden
Joseph Judkins
Richard Gliden
Andrew Glidden
John Young
Jonathan Glidden
Jonathan Hill
Daniel Lad
Joseph Lad
Nathaniel Smith
Benjamin Folsom
Moses Thirston
Jeremiah Folsom
Moses Clough
Josiah Smith
Samuel Elkins
Jude Allen
John Cram
Samuell Kelley
Wadleigh Cram
Thomas Robie
William Sanborn
Joseph Mason
John Mason
Jeremiah Easman
Owen Runnells

Increse Batchelder
Benjamin Batchelder
Nathan Batchelder
Josiah Sawyer
Daniel Marston

In Council June 28th 1765
Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly
T. Atkinson Jun. Secy

Province of New Hampre } In the House of Representatives June 28, 1765

This Petition being Read
Voted That they be heard thereon the second Day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the first day of Sepr Next That they give notice of the Substance of the Petition in the Public News Papers of the Government three Weeks successively & that any Person or Persons may appear against the Prayer thereof that are so Disposed

H. Sherburne Spkr

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurred
T. Atkinson Jun Secy

Province of New Hampsre } In the House of Representatives Novr 22d 1765.

The Petitioners being heard on the within Petition and no Person appearing to make objection and the Prayer of said Petition appearing to be reasonable
Voted That the Prayer of said Petition be Granted and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

M. Weare Clr

In Council Nov. 22d 1765
The above Vote read & concurred
T. Atkinson Jun Sec.

Att a Legal meeting of the freeholders and Inhabitants of Notingham held att the meeting house in said Notingham on the third thursday of April 1765,
Voted that the southwesterly Corner of Notingham (So called) be sett of as a Distinct Parish according to the following boundaries viz. to begin att the bounds between the ninth and tenth Lotts in the first Range and to Extend to the head line in sd Notingham then to begin att the bounds between the 21st and 22d Lotts in the Second Range and to Extend to the sd head line in Notingham and likewise to include the whole of the 3d 4th 5th & 6th Ranges of the third Division (so called) in sd Notingham with the Lands and settlers on the westerly side of Pleasant Pond so far as the road extends to Epsom line including all the farms and settlers on sd Epsom Road (so calld) to the head Line of Notingham as Likewise the whole of the Hundred acre Lotts in Bow Street on the Southwesterly side of sd Street including Josiah Sawyer's Lott being the original Lott of Archibald Macfadrix to the head of sd Bow street
A true Coppy Attest

Benjamin Shepard Town Clerk

Nottingham Petition for Liberty to Elect an Assembly man

Province of New Hampshire Rockingham ss. } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Said Province of New Hampshire.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Nottingham in said County of Rockingham Shews that said Nottingham is an ancient Settled Town and Does at Present Consist of above three Hundred & Fifty Families. For a Long Time Past the Inhabitants thereof have been Constantly Taxed toward the Support and Maintenance of the Government of this His Majesty's Province and have always freely and cheerfully Paid the same tho they have Never Enjoy'd the Inestimable Darling Privilege and Liberty of Being Represented in the House of Commons here which other Towns and Parishes Less Opulent and Not so Numerous or ancient have been Indulg[d] with; the Liberty of sending Representatives. Your Petitioners would humbly Submit their Case to your Excellencys Wise Mature Consideration, Whether they are not Intitled to the Privileges and Immunitys of the British Constitution Equally with Every other Subject thereof Whether the Lives Liberties and Propertys of your Petitioners under their Present Circumstances may not be taken from them without their Consent to the Law by which they may be Judged.

Wherefore your Petitioners Pray your Excellency Would authorize and Impower them for the future to send a Representative to the General Assembly of said Province That your Petitioners may no Longer Be Virtually But Really Represented By a Person of their own Electing and Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray

Nottingham April 18th 1774

John Mecrillis
James Kelse
William McCrillis
John Banfill
John Gile
Enoch Page
Rice Rowell
Patton Simpson
Robert Morrison
Jacob Frost
Joseph Morrill
Abednego Leathers
John Harvey
Nathaniel Avery
Zebulon King
John Methes
Clement Jackson Jun.
Nathl Batchelder
Nath Batchelder
Eben Tilton
Joel Cram
his
Sam X Leavitt
m
Jethomy ? Gowin
Ephraim Cram
Stephen Chas
Jonathan McClure
John Trusten
Jos Cilley Jr.
Thos Bartlett
Henry Dearborn
John Randle
John Morrill
Benjamin Watson
Josiah Watson
Will Clark
Jonathan Randel
Moses Chase
Jos Mills

Jno Mills	John Kinston
Cutten Cilley	Joshua Stevens
Daniel Leathers	Jonathan Davis
Nathaniel Gove	Thomas Hines
Samuel Gove	Josiah Bartlett
Peter Leavitt	Jonathan Huckins
Thos Leavitt	Saml Leavitt
Jona Leavitt	Thomas Berry
Benjamin French	Simon Marston
James Page	Daniel Moor
Daniel Page	Robey Marston
Samuel Winslow	Phineas Tilton
Josiah Prescott	Jacob Doe
John Godfree	Thomas Rand
Jeremh Easman	Saml Cate
Samuel McCluer	Joseph Gorman
Joseph Cilley	Jona Gove
Benjamin Butler	Noah Barker
Saml Huntoon	Jos Nelly
Thos Foss	John Harvey Jun.
Joseph White	Thos Frost ?
John Pills ?	Jona Rolings
Jona Willey	John Simpson
John Morrill	Josiah Presket Jr.
Asa Guile	William Simpson
Nathl Randal	John Sheperd.

To the Honble Peter Gilman Esqr

We the Subscribers Proprietors, or heirs & descendants of the Original Grantees of the Township of Nottingham East (formerly including the Parishes of Deerfield & Northwood) now In the County of Rockingham (State of New Hampshire) *And also of Those* who became denominated Proprietors, by their purchasing whole & Entire Rights throughout, of the said Grantees in their place & stead, Performing the Conditions of the Grant on the first planting & settling of the Premises, who in their Day & Time (there being Scarce any of either Grantee or Such Proper Proprietor now Surviving) not duly divided the whole of the said Township but effectually rectified, certain Mistakes in the first Settlers Sitting down, with respect to the Home Lotts adjusted, determined & Fixed that & all other Matters and Things Relative to the Propriety *Here mentioned to Shew* the Importance of Their records & Plans. besides, as the said Township was a Grant to a number of Persons, they never had any separate Instrument in hand Severally of any such Grant. Their whole dependence as to the Original Title, being contained in Said Records & Plans. Therefore that due (care) be Taken thereof, and Vexatious Law Suits prevented

Whenever you shall see Cause to Resign as Clerk, your special care of the same we hereby manifest our Freedom in joining with you in address, Humbly Recommending the said Records & Plans to the Patronage of the Honble the General Assembly, to be by Them deposited with the Records of the said County of Rockingham, there to Remain (as compleated) *Sacred & Inviolate*

Hunking Wentworth for Col Mark Hunking Esqr Deceased r'g^{ts} ?

John Sherburne as Exec^{r} to the will of my Hon^{d} father Henry Sherburne Esqr Deceas'd and for the original Right of Thomas Peirce Esqr Dec'd.

Geo Jaffrey admr to Estate of Geo Jaffrey Esqr. deceased.
Saml Penhallow for Saml Penhallow Esqr. Decd &
Benjamin Gambling Esqr. Deceased thirteen rights
Benja Dolbeare—For 3 Rights viz. David Dolbeare, Jno. Calfe, Peter Gibbins
Executor Shem Drowne—for 7 Rights, viz: Ebenr Burges, Jno. Steel, Jno. Pratt Jos Powell Jno. Newton Thomas Drowne, Clemt Renough
Timo Newell—for Jno Goodman & Ebenr Messinger two rights
Thos Parker—for Saml Kendalls one right
Sam Whitwell Junr—for his Grandfather Saml Whitwell dec'd one right
Eliz Richards— for her father Edwd Richards decd one right
Job Bradford—for Wm Creese one right
Samuel Green
Ezekiel Walker for my father Eq. Er. Walker Decd one right.
Thomas Drowne, as adminr on the Estate of Francis Brinley Esqr. decd for one Right viz Richard Heards
James Maltman for John Granger Decd one right. (sd Granger's son in law)
Nathaniel Martain for my Father Nathl Martain Deceas'd one Right.
Eliza North For my fathers one right
James Pitson decd for Wm Pitson's one Right
Sarah Creese, Margarett Creese For their Father Mr Thomas Creese one right
Jonathan Warner for Archld McPhedris Esqr. Decd
John Penhallow for Richd Wibird Esqr Decd one right.
———— Russell for the right of his father E. Russell Esqr Deceased
——— Odiorne in behalf of her Late husband Jotham Odiorne Esqr Decd his Right.
Jno Jackson for the Right of Robert Pike.
Joseph Walton One of the heirs of Shadrach Walton Esqr. Decd For his Right.
William Langdon Exr to the will of Wm Langdon Deceased in his Right.
Nathl Peirce heir to my honored uncle Joshua Peirce for his right.
Hannah Hughes Daughter and only surviving heir of Clement Hughes Decd for his Right.
Thomas Westbrook Waldron For the Rights of Thomas Westbrook Esqr. & Richard Waldron Jun.
Michl Wentworth for Benning Wentworth Esqr deceasd for his Right.
Benja Dearborn for Nathl Sargent Esqr Decd for his Right
Jonathan Warner as Executor to the Estate of Mary Pray Decd Heir of Thos Phipps Esqr Decd
Daniel Rindge
Daniel Rogers for the Right of Benning Wentworth Esqr

Exeter June 12th 1783

This may Certify that the within & foregoing is the address Referred to In my Petition to the General Assembly of the state of New Hampshir bearing this date

Peter Gilman.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

After the foregoing papers relating to Nottingham were prepared for the press, the editor received the following note, through Hon. B. F. Prescott, viz.:

"Deerfield Center, Nov. 25, 1875.

Friend Prescott:

I have in my possession, a Plan of Nottingham, by John Brown—1732, showing on it (where legible) the names of the then owners of each lot of land, the number of each lot, and the number of acres in each lot.

I think that there can be no doubt of its authenticity or of its correctness.

On the back is a Plan which I cannot make out. Much information can be obtained from it. This Plan was drawn while Nottingham included Deerfield, Northwood and a part of Raymond. Perhaps it would not be amiss to inform Dr. Bouton.

Yours, &c., G. H. STEVENS."

Reference to this Plan may be important to persons in investigating titles to land, or in completing a history of Nottingham, and of towns laid off from it. The editor would have been happy to have secured a copy for an insertion in this volume. ED.

ORFORD.

[Orford was granted 25 September, 1761, to Jonathan Moulton and others. It was settled in June, 1765, and incorporated by charter when granted. ED.]

A List of the Inhabitants and others In the Township of Orford with their Familys & ages.

1	Israel Morey Esqr.	
	Wife	
	Israel Morey	11 years
	Samuel "	9
	Moulton "	6
	Martha "	4
	Darius an Infant	½
2	John Man & Wife	
	Jno "	6
	Solomon "	3
	Jerrad "	1
3	William Marston & wife	
	Huldah "	17
	William "	19
	Jno "	15
	Peter "	11
	Deborah "	9
	Betty "	7
	Olive "	3
	Josiah an Infant	¾
4	Thomas Sawyer & Wife	
	Ichabod "	21
	Abel Sawyer & Wife	19
	John "	16
	Ruby Richardson an hired girl	16
5	Benja Baldwin & wife	
6	Benja Baldwin jun & Wife	
	Andrew Peters	12
	Lydia "	9
	Betty "	7
	Benja "	4
	Theophilus "	2
7	Ebenezer Baldwin & wife	
	Abigail "	7
	Raynah "	5
	Ebenezer "	3
	Patty an Infant & an hir'd woman	½
8	Ichabod Palmer & Wife & 1 Son	
9	Jno Woodward & Wife	

Theodore Woodward 11
Phebe " 3
Uriah " 5
Son " 2

10 Noah Dewey & Wife

11 Noah Dewey Junr & wife
Samuel " 13
Olive " 10
Elias " 8
Ezra " 6
Charles " 4
Alexander 2
Darius an Infant

12 James Calkins & Wife
Rhoda " 14
Samuel " 8
Fredrick " 6
Cyrus " 4
Enos " 1½

13 Constant Bliss & wife

14 Eldad Post & Wife
Eldad " 13
Aaron " 11
Daniel " 6
Russell " 4
Hannah " 15
Sibbel " 2
Mary an Infant

15 Daniel Tillotson & Wife
Child " 1
Hir'd child 9

16 Clement Emery & Wife

17 Samuel Phelps & Wife
Oranda " 6
Samuel " 5
Bridget " 2
Lydia an Infant

18 Jno Wood & Wife
Reuby " 16
Comfort " 14

19 Joel Phelps & Wife

20 Edward Sawyer & Wife

12 Experience Cross & Wife
Hitty " 11
Bethuel " 6
Oliver " 1

22 Shubel Cross & Wife
Joseph " 2
Lydia an Infant

23 Linsford Morey & Wife

24 Jonathan Derby & Wife
Jona " aged 18
Ezra " " 14
Levinah " " 12
Lydia " " 9
Lucy " " 6
Elizabeth & Apollos (Twins) 4
Samuel 1½

25 Jeremiah Post & wife

26 Jonathon Sawyer & wife

Single Men

Reverend Mr. Obadiah Noble 1
Abraham Palmer 2
Jacob Marston 3
Gillam Bliss (a Transient man) 4
George Wilson Do. 5
John Wright Do. 6
Daniel Butterfield Do. 7
Jno Crosby for Jno Weeks 8
Giles Tiffany—a Transient man 9
Nathan Dewey 10
Jno. Morey—In all 11

Sundry persons to whom Coll. Moulton hath wrote to Settle on the following Rights.

E. Cross on the Right of Samuel Blake
N. Dewey on " " " Philip Towle
S. Morey " " " Jn° Moulton 3d
I Wood " " " Josiah Moulton Junr
I. Morey " " " James Brown

1772

Mem" of the Settlement & Improvement of Land in the Township of Orford.

Viz. orig: Propr Names—by whom settled & in what manner improved

Jonathan Moulton Esqr—John Wood has Settled for sd Right
John Moulton 3d—Constant Bliss settled on the back lot, 6 acres fell
John Nelson —Daniel Clark improving do. } & Col Moulton making
Thomas Reed—Levi Dam do do. } Improvements on the River Lots
James Brown—John Morey do do
John Moulton Esqr—Moses Norton do do
John Wason—Wm Tarlton do do.
Jereh^m Marston—Improvements making by his Son 3 or 4 Acres fell on the River Lot, about 10 acres more on the back Lot 6 of which is sowed with wheat.
Saml Blake—Experience Cross settled on the back Lot
Joseph Palmer—Ebenezer Bracket improving on the back Lot
Benning Wentworth—
Ward Cotton—Saml Haines Junr improving on do.
The° Atkinson Esqr.—Linsford Morey do. do
Philip Towle—Nathan Dewy settled on the back Land
Jereh Sanborn—Benja Kate improving on the back Land
Josiah Dearborn—
Jona Moulton Junr—Theodore Dam do. do.
Jona Philbrick—Ichabod Palmer Settled on River Lot abt 5 acres under good Improvement
Jeremh Dow—Ichabod Palmer Junr on do. abt. 5 acres under good Improvement.
Walter Neal—Jacob Marston Settled on back Lot.
Clemt March—
Saml Perkins—Richard Haines improving on do.
Saml Wentworth Esqr.—Joel Phelps settled on River Lot
Christ° Tappan Esqr.
Witham Wallace
Josiah Lane
Wiseman Clagget Esqr
Byfield Lloyd Esqr
Samuel Dow
Cotton Ward
} Israel Morey Esqr. settled 3 mills near 100 acres of Land under good improvement.
Joshua Towle—Danl Tillotson Esqr improv'd on River Lot abt 10 acres under good Improvement.
Wm Lane—Saml Phelps settled do. abt 10 acres under good Improvement.
Worthingn Moulton—Improvements on River Lot by Israel Morey Esqr. abt 10 acres under good improvement

Wm Marston—Settled by himself
Benja Staniford Randall } John Mann settled abt. 20 acres under good
Nathl Showers } Improvements
Edmund Mason—James Calkins d° abt 14 do. do. do
Nicholas White—Benja Baldwin Junr do. 5 do. do
Meshech Weare Esqr.—Danl Mason settled do.
Theo. Atkinson Junr. Esqr.—Daniel Tillotson Junr. do.
Mark H. Wentworth Esqr.—Benja Baldwin do. (Potash) & 20 acres under good Improvement.

Ephraim Marston
Edward Moulton
Thornton Wason
Thomas Nudd
} Thomas Sawyer Settled, about 80 acres under good Improvement.

Jona Towle—Ebenr Baldwin Settled, abt 17 acres under good Improvement.
John Weeks Junr—John Crosby improving
Jacob Brown—Thoms Sawyer Junr. abt 16 acres under good Improvement.

Joshua Lane Junr
Wm Smith
Jos Moulton 3d
Jona Sanborn Junr
} Jeremiah Post Settled, 40 or 50 acres under good Improvement

Abrahm P. Towle } Eldad Post settled, about 20 acres under good Im-
John Moulton Junr } provement

Simon Marston
Saml Garland
Jona Marston 4th
} Improvements making by Col. Moulton, about 33 acres fell & about 13 of which is well cleared

Jona Leavitt—Jona Darbee Settled
Jona Marston Junr } Capt. Dewey Settled, 8 acres under Improvement
George March } thereabouts
Benjamin Batchelder—Noah Dewey settled, ab't 6 acres under do.
Joseph Philbrick—Clemt Emery do. abt 6 do. do.

Nathan Moulton Junr
Philip Hooker
} Improvements made for Col. Moulton.

Names of all the Men, Women and Children in Orford, 1772.

Married Mens Names	*Married Womens Names*
Capt Linsford Morey	Mary Morey
Israel Morey	Martha Morey
Ichabod Palmer	Tabitha Palmer
John Woodward	Cintha Woodward
Constant Bliss	Elizabeth Bliss
Shubel Cross	Hipsebath Cross
Experience Cross	Mehitabl Cross
Joel Phelps	Mary Phelps
John Wood	Hannah Wood
Jonathan Sawyer	Tabitha Sawyer
Ebenezar Bracket	
Benjamin Cate	
Nathan Dewy	
William Marston	Mary Marston
Jonathan Darby	Abigail Darby
Thomas Sawyar	Hipsebath Sawyar

John Man
Daniel Tillotson
Noah Dewey
Capt Noah Dewy
Clemment Emery
Jeremiah Post
Edward Sawyer
Benjamin Baldwin
Benjamin Baldwin Jun
Ebenezer Baldwin
Eldad Post
Samuel Phelps
James Calking

Lydia Man
Mary Tillotson
Abigail Dewey
Abigail Dewey
Mary Emery
Anna Post
Hannah Sawyer
Elizabeth Baldwin
Lydia Baldwin
Abigail Baldwin
Hannah Post
Lydia Phelps
Marsa Calking

Young Mens Names

Revd. Obadiah Noble
Gillom Bliss
Jacob Marston
John Wright
William Marston
Abraham Palmer
Richard Haynes
William Tolton
John Crosbie
Samuel Haynes
Ichabod Sawyer
Abel Sawyer 17½
Jonathan Darby
John Morey
Daniel Butterfield
George Wilson
Giles Tiffeny

Young Womens Names

Ruby Coats
Comfort Coats
Hulda Marston
Ruby Richerson
Rhoda Calkings
Hannah Post
Abigail Backster

Names and ages of the children in Orford.

Male children & age.	yrs.	mos.
Ichabod Palmer	16	
Oliver Cross	5	
Israel Morey	12	
Samuel Morey	10	
Moulton Morey	7	
Darias Linsford Morey		5
Theodorus Woodward	11	8
John Woodward	1	8
John Marston	15	4
Peter Marston	11	4
Josiah Marston		9
John Sawyar	16	
Simeon Darby	16	
Ezra Darby	14	
Apollas Darby	3	
Lemuel Darby	1	6
John Man	5	8
Solomon Man	3	8
Jerod Man	1	3
Lemuel Dewey	13	

Female children & age	yrs.
Mehitabel Cross	12
Martha Morey	4
Pheby Woodward	8
Eurana Woodward	5½
Lavina Darby	12
Lucy Darby	5
Elizabeth Darby	3
Mary Tillotson	1½
Olive Dewey	10
Lydia Baldwin	9
Elizabeth Baldwin	8
Mary Marston	9
Deborah Marston	9
Elizabeth Marston	7
Olle Marston	3
Orenda Phelps	7
Bridet Phelps	2
Lydia Phelps	½
Abigail Baldwin	6
Mary Post	5

Elias Dewey	8	Eurana Baldwin	4
Ezra Dewey	6	Martha Baldwin	1
Noah Dewey	0 1	Asinath Tillotson	12
Elaxander Dewey	2		
Benjamin Baldwin	5		
Theophilus Baldwin	3		
Samuel Phelps Jun.	5		
Eldad Post	13		
Aaron Post	11		
Daniel Post	6		
Russel Post	4		
Ebenezer Baldwin	2		
Samuel Calkings	9		
Fredrick Calkings	7		
Cyrus Calkings	5		
Enos Calkings	2		
Joseph Cross	3		
Andrew Peters	14		

NOTE.—Readers will notice some discrepancy in the lists of names above. ED.

Petition of William Simpson & others in behalf of the inhabitants of Orford.

Province of New Hampshr } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General, & Governor &c. in and over the Province aforesaid and to the hon[bl e] his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in general Assembly conven'd on Tuesday the fifth Day of Jan. A. D. 1773.

The Petition of William Simpson, John Man and James Calkin, Inhabitants of the Town of Orford humbly *sheweth*, that the Major Part of the Inhabitants of said Orford, by their Agents Alexander Phelps and Israel Mowry prefer'd a Petition to the General Assembly, on the twelfth Day of December A.D. 1771 Praying that his Excellency and your honours wou'd enact and order that a Tax of two Pence L Money to be assessed on each and every acre of Land in said Orford indiscriminately as well improved as unimproved Lands (the Public Rights excepted) annually for the next four years, and that they be impowered to levy and collect the same of the owners of said Land to be by the Inhabitants expended Solely for their Ministers Settlement & Salary as they shall become due, And for building a House for divine Service, as in and by said petition will more fully and largely appear. Now the said Simpson, Man and Calkins your Petitioners beg Leave to represent to your Exc[y] & Honours, that the major Part of the said Inhabitants of Orford are of the dissenting or Congrega-

tional Profession, that there Ministers called and settled there is of the same Profession; but that your Petitioners are of the Profession of the Church of England, as Established by Law, that they have possessions and Lands in the said Town of Orford, that they claim by natural Right and Liberty, and upon the Principles of Religion an Exemption of having their Lands or Estates taxed for the Maintainance, Support or Charge either in Building or any other Manner, for any Minister other than for the Profession of the Church of England; that it wou'd be illiberal and cruel to tax their Lands & Estates against there Consent, to maintain and support the Ministers of other Professions while they maintain and support their own; that they have taken Measures, and Contributed towards the Expence in Conjunction with some of the Inhabitants of the Neighboring Towns, to procure a Minister of the Church of England to settle among them; that they do not ask nor expect any one of a different profession to aid or assist in his Maintainance or Support in any Manner whatever: Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency & Honours, that their Lands & Estates in the Said Town of Orford, and the Lands & Estates of all others in said Town, now of the profession of the Church of England, may be exempted from all Taxes and Impositions, for the Purpose of Maintaining & supporting any Minister, other than of their own Profession, or if your Exc'y & Honours in your Wisdom shall think fit and proper to tax the Lands and Estates of your Petitioners and others, they most earnestly pray that the Monies arising on said Tax may be at their own Discretion, appropriated to the use and Benefit of supporting their own Minister, or for the Purpose of other religious and Charitable Uses. And your petitioners, as in Duty Bound will ever pray.

WILLIAM SIMPSON
JOHN MAN
JAMES CALKINS

Portsmouth Jany 8th 1773

In Council Jany 8th 1773
Read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly
Geo. King D. Sec^{y}

PELHAM.

[Incorporated 6 July, 1746. Ed.]

Province of New Hampr^re } January ye 26, 1746

At a Town meeting of the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Pelham Regularly Assembled, it was then voted to chuse Capt. Henry Baldwin to apply to the General Assembly of said Province in the behalf of this town in order to Get the Non resident land Taxed lying in this town; to Enable them to support and maintain the Gospel &c.

Feb. ye 12, 1746 A true Coppy taken from Pelham town Book of Record

Attest Eleazer Whiting town Clerk

Henry Baldwin's petition in behalf of the Town of Pelham.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General Governour & Commander in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^bl^e his Majesties Council & House of Representatives in Genl Court assembled.

The Humble Petition of Henry Baldwin of Pelham in said Province Gentleman Shews That ye Inhabitants of s^d Pelham are but few in Number & some of them not able to pay any Tax at all and besides other Difficulties which they labour under in their present needy Circumstances ye War makes their case much more difficult & ye Support of ye Ministry and their other Necessary charges more intolerable.

That there are many valuable Tracts of Land owned by non resident Proprietors which Lands are much meliorated by our Improvements & at our Expence and we are verily perswaded that some if not all of s^d non resident Proprietors would willingly be subjected to pay something towards our Help. I would therefore in ye name & on ye Behalf of s^d Inhabitants as well as on my own humbly supplicate your Excellency & Honours by an act to Subject said non residents Lands to pay a Tax of one penny & an Half annually pr. acre for five years next ensuing & to impower a Collector or Collectors by us lawfully constituted to collect ye same or otherwise do what your Excellency & Honours shall think best for us & consistent with Justice.

Henry Baldwin

Portsm^o Apr. 2^d 1747.

Prov of New Hampshir } In the House of Representatives April 2^d 1747

Voted That the Petitioner be heard on this Petition ye third Day of

ye Setting of ye Genl Assembly after ye first Monday in May next & that ye Petitioner at his own proper Cost advertize ye publick two or three weeks successively between this Day & ye aforesaid third Day of the setting of ye General Assembly in one of ye publick News Papers of ye Matter of ye Prayer of s^d^ Petition & this order of Court that so every one may have opportunity to shew cause if any they have why ye Prayer of s^d^ Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce Clr.

In Council April 3^d^ 1747
Read & Concurrd
Sam Solly Sec protem

Eodem Die
Consented to B. WENTWORTH

Province of New Hampshir } In the House of Representatives 14th May 1747

Voted That in answer to the annex'd all ye Land of said Pelham residents as well as non-residents be subjected to a Tax of a Penny & an half pr. acre for four years next ensuing & that a Collector or Collectors be impowered to collect the same & that ye Petitioner have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

D. Peirce Cl^r^

In the House of Representatives 16th May 1747

It is further voted that the Inhabitants of said Pelham make it appear by an account to be rendered annually to ye Genl Assembly that the money has been apply'd for ye uses mentioned in the annexed Petition on Pain of Refunding the same

D. Peirce Clk.

In Council Eod^m^ Die
read & Concurr'd
Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

Eodem Die
Assented to B. WENTWORTH

Petition of Selectmen of Pelham for power to tax non resident lands.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governor in chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England, To the Honourable His Majestys Council & House of Representatives of said Province in General Court assembled at Portsmouth the fourteenth Day of July, 1756.

The Petition of James Wilson John Hamblet & Benjamin Barker Selectmen of the Town of Pelham in the Province aforesaid in behalf of said Town,

Humbly Sheweth That the Inhabitants of said Town labour under many Difficulties by Reason that about one half of the Land in Said Town is owned by Non Resident Proprietors (as your Petitioners Humbly conceive) and the Taxes which

the Selectmen of the Said Town assessed on the lands in said Town at one penny half penny per acre annually in years past hath been applied and used as in and by the act for granting the same was ordered and yet there must be further great Cost and charge before the Meeting House in said Town be finished, and moreover the Inhabitants of said Town (though few in number) are desirous to promote learning among them and to that end be at the Cost to Keep a School.

And further there is a certain River (called Beaver River) Runs through the Body of the said Town which occasions great charge for Building and maintaining five Bridges over said River to accommodate people in passing over the same from all which (and other circumstances) ariseth great Cost and charge upon the Inhabitants of said Town. And the said Non Resident owners of such lands are greatly benefited and may be still by the performance of these things thereby raising the value of such lands.

Your Petitioners therefore (being Desirous to act and do such things as tend to the General Interest of the Town) Humbly supplicate the serious Consideration and favour of your Excellency and your Hon^{rs} Praying that power and authority may be granted to the Said Town to Tax all the Lands of such Non-Residents lying within the said Town at two pence per acre annually for such term as your Excellency & your Hon^{rs} in your wisdom and Goodness shall think fit and Judge meet—all which is humbly presented by

JAMES WILLSON
JOHN HAMBLET
BENJAMIN BARKER
} Selectmen for Pelham

In Council July 15, 1756
read & ordered to be Sent Down to the Honble House
Theo^{re} Atkinson Sec^{y}.

Province of New Hamp^{re} } In the House of Representatives July 15th 1756 This Petition being read

Ordered That the Petitioners be heard thereon ye 2^{d} Day of the Sitting of the General Assembly next after ye 1st day of Sepr next Ensuing, & y^{t} in the meantime the petitioner at his own Cost & charge Cause this order of Court with the Substance of s^{d} petition to be advertized in some publick print for three weeks successively.

Andrew Clarkson, Cl^{k}

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred
Theo^{re} Atkinson Sec^{y}

Province of New Hamp^{re} } In the House of Representatives Decr 22^{d} 1756 This Petition being read, & it appearing that the above order of Court had been Conformed to and no person appearing against the Petition the prayer of which appears reasonable Therefore

Voted That the prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioners have

Liberty to bring in a Bill according subjecting the s[d] Lands to the said Tax for five years

Andrew Clarkson Clk.

In Council December 23[d] 1756
read & concurred
Theodore Atkinson Sec[y]

PEELING.

[Peeling was first granted Sept. 23, 1763, to Eli Demeritt; settlements were begun about 1773. Ed.]

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Governor of His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire

The Petition of Nathaniel Cushman of Lebanon in Connecticut most Humbly sheweth

That he hath a Number of Sons disposed to remove into the s[d] Province, & become Settlers on the New & Uncultivated Lands within the same; & that a Number of his Friends are of the same disposition—in the whole A Number fully Sufficient to settle an entire Township.

Your Excellency's humble Petitioner therefore Prays your Excellency, to Grant to him & them A Certain Tounship of Land, within s[d] Province, called & known by the Name of *Peeling*, on such Terms, subject to such Settling *Duties* & endowed with such Town Priviledges as the other Towns in s[d] Province have generally & usually been Granted upon & Endowed with—& your Excellency's humble Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

Nathaniel Cushman

Lebanon 17th June A.D. 1771.

Memorial of Nath[l] Cushman and others for a regrant of the Town of Peeling.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Governor of the Province of New Hampshire in New England in America.

The Memorial of Nath[l] Cushman & others Subscribers, Humbly Sheweth, That we are desirous of Settling a Township of Land, within the Province of New Hampshire.

That we understand that a certain Town formerly Granted by the Name of *Peeling*, is now Vacant & Ungranted & that

LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

your Excellency is willing to Grant that Town to People who will settle the Same.—Whereupon We humbly Move your Excellency to Grant the same to us in such Proportions as we subscribe for, & by the Name of Fairfield, subject to Such Duties & Penalties, & Endowed with such Priveledges, as your Excellency has been accustomed to Grant other Towns, within s[d] Province. And your Excellency's memorialists as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

Dated at Lebanon this 24th day of November, A.D. 1771 & in the 12th year of his majesty's Reign

Henchman Bennet	1 Right	Rowland Swift	1
Pollecarpus Cushman	1 do	Benja Lyman	1
Artemus Cushman	1 do	Jedediah Strong	1
Wm Cushman	1 do	Jedediah Strong Jun.	1
Nathl Hatch	1 do	Ebr Garey	1
Jas Lassell	1 do	Asahel Clark Jun	1
John Crocker	1 do	Allerton Cushman Jun	1
Joshua Elderkin	1 do	Ambrose Cushman	1
Joshua Booth Elderkin	1 do	Samuel Clark	1
Oliver Barbur	1 do	Simon Clark	1
Aaron Barbur	1	Consider Cushman	1
Obadiah Barbur	1	Joab Cushman	1
Abner Flint	1	Solomon Williams	1
John Crocker Junr	1	Alexander Phelps	1
Isaac Cushman	1	Neziah Bliss	1
Nathaniel Cushman Jun.	1	Jehiel Rose	1
Caleb Abell Jur	1	Samuel Clark Jr.	1
Rowland Swift Jur	1	Samuel Clark 3d	1
Silas Swift	1	Samuel Robinson	1
John Strong	1	John Hurd	1
Nathl Cushman	1	Samuel Roberson Jr.	1
William Williams	1	Ebenezer Lech	1
Thos Williams	1	Henery Burt	1
Jona Trumbull Junr	1	Benjn Cofrass	1
David Trumbull	1	Elijah Tisdel	1
Jas. Trumbull	1	Jacob Ellot	1
John Trumbull	1	William Sims	1
David Barbur	1	William Sims Jr.	1
Caleb Abel	1	George Sims	1

Jacob Sheaffe Junr	Supply Clapp
Dr Thompson Esq. of Durham	Jacob Tilton Portsmouth
Willm Torrey	John Sherburne Esqr.
David Boynton	Thomas Shannon of Dover
Thos Curtain Cheevers	

PEMBROKE.

[This town was originally Suncook, and afterwards Lovewell's Town; and was granted by Massachusetts to the brave men who belonged to the company of Capt. John Lovewell, and to the heirs of those who fell in the memorable engagement at Pequawket. The first Settlement was made about the year 1729, by some of the survivors of that engagement. The Town was chartered by New Hampshire, 1 November, 1759. ED.]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governor in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Court Convened.

The memorial and Petition of Moses Foster in the Name and Behalf of the Inhabitants of the Plantation of *Suncook* in Said Province,

Humbly Sheweth,

That the Said Plantation has been Settled by His Majestys Subjects about Eleven years and a Gospel minister ordained there Several years.

That the Settlers had an eye at enlarging His Majestys Dominions by going into the Wilderness as well as at their own Interest

That several Thousand Pounds have been spent in clearing and cultivating the Lands there and in erecting Houses, Barns, and Fences; besides a large additional Sum in Fortifications, lately made by His Excellency the Governours Order.

That the breaking up of the Settlement will not only ruin the Memorialists, but in their Humble Opinion greatly disserve His Majestys Interest by encouraging his Enemies to encroach on His derelict Dominions and be also hurtful to the Province by contracting its Borders and by drawing the War nearer to the capital.

That it was by a long and importunate Intercession of this Province (and not of the Memorialists seeking) that they are put under the immediate care of this Government which they apprehend gives them so much the better Right to its Protection.

That as War is already declared against France and a Rupture with the Indians hourly expected your memorialists unless they have Speedy help will be soon oblidged to dissert their Settlements how disserviceable so ever it may be to the Crown, and this Province and ruinous to themselves

Wherefore your Memorialists most humbly Supplicate your Excellency the Honourable Council and House of Representatives to take the Premises into your wise and mature Con-

sideration and to grant them such Seasonable Relief as may enable them to maintain His Majesty's Dominions in so ancient and well regulated a Settlement as well as to secure their own Lives and Fortunes against the Ravage and Devastations of a Blood-thirsty and Mercy-less Enemy and your Memorialists as in Duty bound will ever Pray.

MOSES FOSTER

Portsmouth June 20, 1744.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General, Commander & Gov in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, the Honourable his Majesties Council & House of Representatives in General Court convened.

The Memorial & Petition of Benjamin Holt in the name and behalf of a major part of the inhabitants of the New plantation commonly known by the name of *Suncook* or Lovewells Town in said Province Humbly Sheweth,

That the said plantation has been settled By his Majesties Subjects about fourteen years, and a Gosple Minister upwards of seven, that the settlers had an eye at enlarging his Majesties Dominions by going into the Wilderness, as well as at their own Interest

That many thousand pounds have been spent in clearing & cultivating the Lands there, and many more in erecting Houses Fortifications, Barns and Fenses.

That the Buildings are properly formed for defence, and Well scituated for a Barrier being on Merrimack River about a Days march below the Confluence of Winnipishoky and Pemissawasset Rivers Both of which are gang ways of the Canadians to the Frontiers of this province and within a Weeks March at farthest from a very Strong Fort Built within these few years by the French at Crown point, which will be a Place of constant Retreat and Resort for the French and Indians in all their Expeditions against the English Settlements.

That the Breaking up of the Settlements will not only Ruin the memorialists, But in their humble opinion greatly disserve his Majesties interest by incouraging his Enemies to Encroach on his derelict Dominions and be also hurtful to the Province by contracting its Borders and drawing the War nearer the capital.

That it was by a long and importunate intercession of this Province (and not of the memorialists seeking) that they are cast under the immediate care of this government which they apprehend gives them so much Better Right to its protection.

That as War has been declared against France for some time and a Rupture with the Indians has been hourly Expected many of the inhabitants of said Plantation by Reason of their being so exposed to Eminent danger from their Enemies have already moved from said Plantation The Season of the year being such as to give the Indians an opportunity of Disturbing the Frontiers.

And your memorialists unless they have sufficient & speedy help will bee soon obliged to Evacuate said Plantation how disserviceable soever it may be to (the) crown Dishonourable to the government Hurtful to the Province and Ruinous to themselves

Wherefore your Memorialists most Humbly supplicate your Excellency the Honourable Council & House of Representatives to take the Premises into your wise and mature Consideration and to grant them thirty or forty soldiers to be posted at said Plantation for scouting Watching, Warding & guarding, with Sufficient Military Stores or otherwise to grant them such aids Both with Respect to men & military stores as your Excellency & Honours shall think sufficient to secure your Memorialists Lives & Fortunes against the Ravage and Hostilities of our said Enemies. And your memorialists as in duty Bound Shall ever pray.

BENJAMIN HOLT.

Portsmouth April the 30th 1745.

Town meeting relating to Rev. A. Whittemore, &c.

Notice is hereby given to all the freeholders and Inhabitance of the Parish of Pembrook to meet at the New Meeting house in s[d] parish on Monday the fifteenth Day of November next at ten of the Clock in the forenoon then and there when met,

firstly to Chuse a Moderator to Regelat s[d] meeting.

Secondly, to see if the Selectmen shall be Impowered by a Vote to ses and Rais the money according to Law that the Rev[d] Mr. Aaron Whitemore Recovered by Judgment of Court of the parish of Pembrook if Not then

thirdly to see if they will vote to Rais any money to revew the action and further withstand the Rev. Mr. Whitemore.

Fourthly to see if they will vote that the Rev. Aaron Whitemore shall be forbiden to Do any servise for the futter as a gospel minister for the Parish of Pembrook by a Comittee Chosen for that Purpose.

fifthly to chose a Committee to forbid the Rev[d] Mr. Aaron Whitemore to Do any service for the futter as a gospel minister for the parish of Pembrook and to make a Return of their Doings to the parish Clark to be Recorded.

Dated at Pembrook in the province of New hampshire October y[e] 30 Day 1762

A true copy per. me

John Coffrin Parish Clark

Thom[s] M[c]Lucas
Will[m] Knox } Selectmen
David Conor

At a Legual meeting held at Pembrook November ye 15, 1762.
firstly voted Thomas Lucas Moderatore
the second Artickel in the warrant Past in the Nagittive.
the third Artickel in the warent Past in the Nagitive.
Fourthly voted that the Rev^d^ Mr. Aaron Whitemore Shall be forbiden to Do any Service for the futture as a gospel minister for the parish of Pembrook by a Comittee chosen for that Purpose.
fiftly to chuse a Committee to forbid the Rev^d^ Mr. Aaron Whitemore to Do any Servise for the futter as a gospel minister for the Parish of Pembrook and to make A Return of their Doings to the Parish Clark to be Recorded
A true coppy pr. me

John Coffrin Parish clark

We the Subscribers Being a Committee chosen by the Parish of Pembrook to forbid the Rev^d^ Mr. Aron Whitemore to Do any service as a gospel minister for s^d^ Parish of Pembrook for the futter and accordingly we have forbid the said Aaron Whitemore to Do any servise for the futter as a gospel minister for said parish. Dated at Pembrook November ye 15, 1762.
A true coppy pr. me

John Coffrin Parish clark

Robert White
Eleazer Allen
James Cochran

At a meeting held at Pembrook January ye 31 day, 1763
1^ly^ voted Thomas M^c^Lucas Modrator
2^ly^ then the Coppy of our Petition was read by Thomas M^c^Lucas acording to the order of Court In the hearing of all that would atend after being Posted two Publick days.
A true Copy Pr. me

John Coffrin Parish Clark

Petition for a Justice of the Peace.

Province of New Hamp^re^ } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Capt. General Governour and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New hampshire and the Hono^ble^ His Majesty's Council of said Province.

Humbly Shews the Inhabitants of Pembrook In said Province, Whereas your Excellency and Hono^rs^ are furnishing the Several Parts of your Government with Officers of Justice for the Preserving the Ecconomy of Civil authority throughout Your Government

We therefore Humbly Conceive Your Excellency and Hon^rs^ will not think us Impertinent or acting more than our Duty in offering This our Humble Request That we your Petitioners in the Parish of Pembrook aforesaid may have a Person assigned them to Keep the peace Throughout this Province and Con-

sidering your Excellency & Hon^{rs} have very Little personal acquaintance with our Parishioners,

We further Beg Leave to recommend to Your Excellency and Hon^{rs} Mr. John Bryent of said Parish of Pembrook as a suitable & capable person to be Intrusted with such Office, which is of Great Importance as it is Relative to the Honour of the Government & to the Peace and safety of Your Excellency & Hon^{rs} Most dutiful and Loyal Subjects the Petitioners who as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray &c.

Pembroke Sepr 3^{d} 1767

John Noyes
Benja Norris
James Conner
John Conner
Samuel Jemes
David Gilman
Thomas McLucas
Daniel McLucas
James McLucas
Benja Jenkins
Joseph Siukler
John Sinkler
Nathaniel Piper sen.
Nathaniel Piper
Willm Cochran
James Cochran Junr
James Cochran
Nathaniel Martin
Pomfrett Whithouse
Robert McDaniel
John Cullimore
Francis McCoy
Solomon Whitehouse
Nehemiah McDanel
Robert McDaniel
John Cochran
Josiah Allen
Ichabod Clark
Saml M'Conel
James Fife
Moses McConel
John Man
James Man
John Man Jun.
Nathaniel Walker
Decon James Moor
Robert Moor
William Moor
Jacob Doyne
John Moor
Ambros Goold ?
William Robertson
Andw Robertson
Thos Robertson
Samuel Connor
James Martin
Andrew Bunten
Daniel Moor
James Cunningham
David Connor
Saml Noyes
Benja Noyes
John Noyes Jun.
Saml Karr
Eliphalet Connor
Willm Knox
James Knox
Joseph Cochran
John Cochran Jr.
John McDaniel
James Garey ?
Peter Gilman
Moses Mem—— ?

Petition of Jno Bryent agent for the Presbyterians of Pembroke.

Province of New Hampshire } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in cheif in & over said Province, The hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council and The House of Representatives in General Assembly Conven'd Augt 24th 1768.

The Humble Petition of John Bryent of Pembroke in said

Province Esqr agent for the Presbyterean Society in said Pembroke *Sheweth*

That by An act of the General assembly of said Province in the 4th year of His Majestys Reign George the third among other things it was enacted "that all Persons then living in Pembroke belonging to the Presbyterian Congregation there or that should be joined to that Society hereafter Shou'd be exempted & exonerated from paying towards the Support of the Congregational Minister, of said Pembroke;" excepting only for three months, which was the Time of settling the Congregational Minister before any Presbyterean Minister was settled there; for which time the said Presbyterean Society were to pay their Proportion according to their Estates & ability, as in other public charges.—And it was further Enacted by the authority afores^{d} that the said Presbyterean Society Shou'd pay the sum of Twelve hundred Pounds old Ten^{r} being a Sum voted in said Pembroke to defray the charges of a Suit at Law bro'ght by the Congregational Minister there for his Salary before due—And said Presbyterean Society were then in & by the same act incorporated into a Separate Parish as to their Church affairs and as to the Support and maintaining the Ministry in their own form as in and by said act it will more fully appear. And your Petitioner's Constituents Afterwards by an Assessment made upon them for the Residue of said Twelve hundred Pounds which they had not paid before the Passing said Act (the Major Part thereof being before paid) under the hands and Seals of William Moore and Isaac White Selectmen of and for said Pembroke for the year A.D. 1765 had the residue of said Sum collected from them for the Payment of said Law Suit, And by Another Assessment under the hands and seals of Ephraim Blunt Willm Moore and Isaac White Selectmen of said Pembroke for the year 1764 y^{r} Pet^{rs} Constituents were obliged to pay the other Sum ordered in said act to be paid by said Constituents to the Congregational Minister of said Pembroke for said three months' Preaching That Isaac White in the Name of the Congregationals of said Pembroke after the Payment of said Sums by the said Presbyterean Society to the said Congregationals in Manner afores^{d} did Petition the said General Assembly; setting forth among other things contain'd said Petition, "That the said Sums above mentioned were then unpaid and that Particular Persons had given their Security for Payment of the Same with Interest which Several Sums amounted to one hundred and twenty Pounds lawful money besides several years Interest, which ought to be assessed on Part of the Inhabitants of said Pembroke only" Meaning your Petition^{rs} Constituents. Your Petitioners Constituents As Soon as they

were served with a Copy of said last mentioned Petition they chose Capt. Thomas Lucas as their Agent to appear in their Name and oppose the Prayer of said Petition; who attended two Sessions of the said General Assembly and said Petition not being acted upon at either return'd home at the third Session of said Assembly the said Lucas was accidentally or Providentially hindered from Attending at which Session the Petition passd in favor of the Petitioners without any of said Constituents being present to contradict and disprove the Capital facts therein alledged—In Consequence of which an Act was passd thereupon to levy and collect of the said Constituents the same sum of money they had before paid in Manner afore mentioned. The Committee impowered by said Act to Assess said Sums have assessed said Constituents for the Same. Wherefore your Pet^{r} Humbly prays in behalf of his said Constituents, That your Excellency and Honors would in your great Wisdom exempt and exonerate them from the Payment of any Part of the Several and respective sums assessed on them by said Committee.—That you would order y^{t} the Collection of said Tax might be suspended in the mean Time, or any other Way relieve said Constituents from the grievous and insupportable Burden they labor under. And your Petit^{r} as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Aug 25th 1768

JN^{o} BRYENT, } Agent for the
} Presbyterean Society

In Council Aug 27th 1768
read & order'd to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
Geo. King Dep. Sec^{y}

Petition to send a representative.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Capt. General Governour & Commander in chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire.

The Petition of the Freeholders and Others Inhabitants of the Town of Pembroke in the County of Rockingham,

Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners in the aforesaid Town Sensible of the right inherent to English Men to be represented in General Assembly according to the British Constitution and the many Inconveniences attending the want Thereof Pembroke being one of the oldest and best settled Towns within This Province Humbly Pray that your Excellency would be Pleased to grant a Precept to Enable them to send a proper person to represent them in General Assembly as They Can by no

means Think Taxation and Representation Can be Sever'd without Committing a Palpable Breach in that Inestimable Paladium of English Liberty,

Magna Charta

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray.

Dated at Pembroke April 12th 1774

Saml McConnel
James Head
Thomas ——— ?
Moses Tyler ?
Joseph Baker
Ephraim Blunt
Benja Holt
John Mann
Joseph Emery Jun.
Pomphret Whitehouse
Benjamin Norris
Joshua Tyler
Jno Bryent
David Connor
David Gilman
Jonathan Dix
Richard Bartlett
Nathan Waite
Samuel Conner
Saml Noyes
Ebenezer Frye
Nathl Martin
Ichabod Robie
Aaron Whittemore
Danieal Lucas
Robert Hastings
John Connor
Samuel Jennes
John Carlton
John Clark
John Ayer
Benja Piper
Joseph Emery
James Knox
Nathaniel Piper
Nathaniel Pyper
Willm Cochran
James Cochran
James Cochran Jun.
William Martin
James Martien
Nehemiah McDaniel
Robt McDaniel
John Cochran
Solomon Whitehouse
Peter Robinson
Robert Cochran
Stephen Bartlett
Caleb Lovejoy
Joseph Swett
Samuel Follet
Mickel Kimball
David Kimball
Caleb Foster
Moses Foster
Nathan Holt
Willm Knox
Zebulon Robinson
William Marston Junr.
James Fife
David Farnum
Lemuel Stickney
James Cunningham
John Whittemore
John Fife
William Fife
James Robinson
William Mann
Isaac White
John Moor Jun
Robert Moor
Moses McConnell
Jonathan Eliot
Andw Robertson
Saml Daniell
Joshua Kimball

PETERBOROUGH.

[This town was granted by the Province of Massachusetts, in 1738, to Samuel Haywood, and others. The first settlement was effected in 1739, by Wm Robbe, Alexander and William Scott, Hugh Gregg and Samuel Stinson. It was incorporated, by the Province of New Hampshire, 17 January 1760. ED.]

Petition of the town of Peterborough.

Province of New Hampshire } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hamp.

The Honourable his Majestys Council of said Province.

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Being Inhabitants of a Tract of Land Lying in said Province on the West side of Merrymac River of the Contents of about six Miles square, Commonly Called and Known by the Name of Peterborough in Behalf of ourselves and others the Inhabitants of said Tract of Land, Most Humbly shews, That about the year of our Lord 1739 a number of Persons in Consequence of a Grant of a Tract of land, had and obtain'd from the Great And Genl Court, or Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay by Samuel Haywood and Others his Associates Granting to them the s^d^ Tract of Land on certain Conditions of Settle^tn^ and in Pursuance whereof a number of People Imediately went on to said Tract of land and began a Settlement, (Tho then Very Far from any other Inhabitants) which we have Continued Increasing ever since the s^d^ year 1739, Except Sometimes when we left said Township for fear of Being Destroyed by the Enemy who Severall times Drove us from our Settle^t^ soon after we Began, and almost Ruined many of us. Yet what Little we had in the World, Lay there, and we having no wheither Else to Go Return'd to our settle^t^ as soon as Prudence would addmit, where we have Continued Improving Constantly Ever Since and have Cultivated a Rough part of the Wilderness to a Fruitfull field, the Inhabitants of said Tract of Land are Increas'd to the Number of forty five or Fifty Famelys, and our Situation, with the Respect to the Terms we at first Settl'd on are Such that we Cannot hold any Propri^rs^ meeting at all to pass any Vote or Votes that will be Sufficient to Oblige any person to do any part towards Suporting the Gospel Building a Meeting house and Bridges, Clearing and Repairing Roads all which wou'd not only be a Benefit to us Settlers to have it in our power to do but a Great Benefit to People Travelling to Connecticut river and those Towns settling beyond us. Therefore we Humbly Request of Your Excell^y^ & Hon^rs^ to take the Premises under Considera-

tion and Incorporate us that we may be Invested with Town Priveledges and immunities as other towns are in this Province And Your petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

Octr 3^{d} 1759

THOMAS MORISON
JONATHAN MORISON
THOMAS CUNNINGHAM

Your Petition^{rs} beg leave to add as a matter of Considerable Importance that the only Road from Portsmouth thro' this Province to number four is thro' said Township of Peterborough & which makes it more necessary to Repair said Road within said Township & to make many Bridges which they cannot do unless Incorporated & Enabled to Raise Taxes &c.

Petition for a new County.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General, Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire & the Honourable His Majesties Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Conven'd.

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Sundry Towns to which our names are annexed, All in the Province aforesaid Humbly Shews That by Reason of our Remote Situation from the Metropolis of the Government, where all the Courts Legislative & Executive are held Our Expense time & Trouble &c to Recover our Just Debts is Often greater than our Debts, & if the Case Requires Evidences & the Def^{t} Appeals & procures a few Continuances we had better let any man with Hold a sum Large enough to Distress a poor family than be quite Ruined according to Law, in Perticular our Widows, Fatherless, & Orphans suffer, to settle an Estate agreeable to Law leaves little or nothing to Suport the Survivors. Some are so unreasonable that they Report when we have a County on Our side Merrimac River, the Shire Town will be at that or Connecticut River & some are so weak as to believe it will be so, Either of which is so absurd & unjust it would be an affront to Common Sense & Impartial Justice to Offer Reasons for or against either.

Our prayer is first that we may have a County ————

Secondly that a Committee of Judicious Impartial Gentlemen may View all the Land & number all the Inhabitants, Intended to be Included in said County and every Circumstance being maturely Considered & every Reason Estimated at its Proper Nature we doubt not (from your well Known Clemency

& Impartial Justice) But we shall have a County & the Shire Town Appointed where it will best Accommodate the Inhabitants that are or may be within its Bounds, Which is all our desire & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray.

Dated Sep. 2d A D. 1767.

John Young
John Scott
Alexander Swan
Samuel Cunningham
Humphery Emmory
James Houston
Samuel Willson
John Taggart Junr.
Hugh Willson
Thomas Cuningham
Gustavas Swan
Moor Stinson
Alexander Scott
William Scott
William Cochran
William Spear
Robert Willson
Isaac Mitchell
James Robbe
John White
Thomas Morison
John Morison Junr.
Robert Morrison
John White Junr.
Charles Stuart
Charles White
Jonathan Morison
John Goforth
Thomas Morison Junr.
Benjamin Esterbrook
James Willson
John Gragg Junr.
John Willson
Joseph Hammbel
Neel Hammbel
John Gragg
Samuel Gragg
Matthew Miller
James Miller
William Miller
John Taggart ye 4th
Hugh Gragg
Saml Gragg
James McDonlad
William Robbe Junr.
Saml Mitchel
Samuel Stinson
John Robbe
Moore Stinson
James McCoone

Petition relating to Peterborough Slip.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majestys province of New hampshire and vice Admiral of the Same & the Honourable his majestys Council.

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers humbly sheweth that whereas there is a certain part or Tract of Land in our Said province, Known by the name of Peterborough Slip unincorporated and not enough to make a town or Destrick and not under any regulation whereby we can repair our Roads which Lys unrepaired to the great Detriment of the Inhabitants and the publick in general, we therefore humbly pray your excellency and honours that said tract or parcell of Land known by the Name of Peterborough Slip aforesaid may be annexed to the town of Peterborough as the most Contiguous Incorporate town that we may Injoy every privilidge consistant with our Infant State all which we Submit to your excellencys and your honours Clemency and as our Distant Situation is

well known to you we from your well known candor cannot fail to meet with Dispatch. we hope your compliance and we as in Duty bound will ever pray.

Peterborough Slip in the province of New hampshire May 18th 1770

John M Allaster John Thorn William McAllaster Peter M°Allaster William McNee David Moor John Swan Junr	Inhabitance of sd Peterborough Slip and owners of Land in the Same

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Petition relating to Rev. John Morrison.

Province of New Hampshr } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Capt. General Governor & Commander in chief in & over the said Province of New Hampshire, To the Honourable his majestys Councill & House of Representatives.

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Being Inhabitants of The Town of Peterborough in the County of Hillsborough & Province aforesaid Humbly Sheweth that about five years since the Reverend John Morrison was Legally appointed to & ordained in the work of the ministry in said Town since which Time he has been guilty various times of profane swearing, Drunkenness, Immodest Actions & conversation & other Lew'd wicked & Disorderly behaviour Quite unbecoming the christian character by Reason of which your Petitioners Humbly apprehend that he is by no means Suitable to Exercise the sacred function, nor can they derive any Benefit or advantage from his ministry or Injoy any of the christian ordinances under his administration

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly pray That your Excellency & Honours would take the matter under your wise consideration & Release them from the agreement Entered into by them at the time of said Morrison settlement That they may have Liberty to settle & support some other minister who shall better support the ministerial character or grant them such other Relief as your Excellency & Honours shall Think proper & your Petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever pray.

Dated at Peterborough Novemb 27th 1771

William M°Nee	William Cochran
Samuel Miller	Archibald Cindinor
James Cunningham	John Willey

Mathew Miller
James McKeen
William Miller
James Miller
Neall Hammel
Saml Willson
James Willson
John Gragg Junr.
John Willson
Daniel Mack
Jasaniah Crosby
William Moore
Hugh Willson
Saml Mitchel
James Taggart
William NcNe Junr
Alexander Robbe
David Steel
John Smith
Robert Morrison
Joseph Hammill
Saml Cunningham
Thomas Little
John Mitchel
Elijah Puffer
John Puffer
Hugh Gregg
Abraham Holmes

In Council Dec 14, 1771
The Petition was read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly

Geo King D. Secy

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Decr 16, 1771. Upon Reading this Petition Voted that the Petitioners serve the said John Morrison with a Copy of this Petition & order of Court thereon that he may be heard thereon the 3d Day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the 15th day of January next to shew cause if any he has why the Prayer hereof should not be Granted.

Attest Wm Parker Clerk

In Council Decembr 18, 1771
This Petition having been Read the above Vote was non concurred & it is ordered that the Petition be dismissed.

Geo King D. Secy

In Council Decem. 20, 1771
This Petition was read & reconsidered and Concurred with this amendment, that the Selectmen of Peterborough be also served with a Copy of this Petition by order of Court.

Attest Geo. King D. Secy

In the House of Representatives Dec 20, 1771
The above Vote of Council being Considered & the Question being put it pass'd in the Negative, it was then proposed that this petition be Dismissed Accordingly the Question being put it pass'd in the affirmative

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Petition for a division of Peterborough.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Capt. Genl Comd in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire & Vice admiral of the same, and to the Honble his Majestys Council.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Freeholders of the Town of Peterborough Incorporated by Benning Wentworth Esqr late Gov. of said province, the Free holders of that Tract of Land called Peterborough Slip, the Freeholders of that Tract of land called the Society, together with part of the Free-

holders of the Township of Jeffrey, most Humbly Shews— That your Petit^{rs} are at great inconveniencies as to the situation of said Vacant Tracts unincorporated, that the Tract called the Slip on the Southerly side of said Peterborough, & the Tracts on the Northerly side called the Society is neither of them near half sufficient to make a Corporated town or parish, and y^{r} petitioners pray your Excellency & Honours to Divide the said Township of Peterborough into two parts by a Westerly line extending from the middle of the East Boundary to the middle of the West Boundary of said town, so that the Southerly part of said Peterb^{o} may be annexed to the aforesaid Slip, together with four teir of Lotts taken off from the Easterly part of Jeffrey which will make one valuable Township, and your Petit^{rs} pray your Excellency & Honours to add to the North part of Peterb^{o} about Three miles north of the now north Boundary extending by a west line from the west Boundary of Francestown till it meets with a line extending North from the North-West corner of said Peterb^{o} so that one other Compleat Township may be made, & your petit^{rs} pray your Excellency & Honours to Incorporate said towns by the lines aforesaid which will much Facilitate the Settlement of the vacant Lands which now lye uncultivated in the aforesaid Towns and Vacant Tracts besides much contributing to the Enjoyment of their Civil & Religious Rights & Priviledges and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray.

Peterborough Slip

Gilbert McCay
John McAllester
John Davis
James McNee
James Millikin
Solomon Coleman
John Taggart Jun.
David Moore
Andrew Baley
Jacob Burkhard
John Whiteman
Henry Sallanham
John Swan
John Taggart
Josiah Crosby
Andrew Conn

—

Jeffrey.

James Heywood
Samuel Butters
Benjamin Nutting
Daniel Davis
Ezekiel Hildreth
Alpheus Brigham
Phineas Spaulding
John Priest
Benjamin Dole
Ebenezer Thompson
William McAllister
John Davidson
Joseph Turner

—

Peterborough

William McNee
William McNee Jun.
John Richey
John Taggart
Robert Smith
John Swan Junr.
Samuel Hogg
Thomas Morison Jun.
John Morison
John Smith
Thomas Morison
William Smith
John Scott
James Cunningham
William McCoy
Samuel Miller
Samuel Miller Jun.
Hugh Willson

Neal Hammel
Jotham Blanchard
Samuel Gregg
William Scott
Samuel Willson
James Willson
Abram Holmes
James McKeen
Thomas Cunningham

John White Junr.
Robert Morrison

Society
Moses Morison
John Graham
George McClorg
Jonathan Barnett

April 18th 1774

Petition against a division.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captin General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the same and also to the Honourable his Majesties Council.

the Request of your Petitioners Humbly Sheweth

That whereas your Excellency and Honours Petitioners (viz) Petterborrough and petterborrough Slip So called together with some of the inhabitants of the town of Jaffrey Are Desirous of obtaining four hundred Rods off the East End of Jaffrey:

Now we the Subscribers your Petitioners are of the mind that if Petterborrough Be Divided according to their Request and added to the petterborrough Slip it will Be accomodated Both in quantity and qualaty for as Compleat a town as the town of Jaffrey as it now Stands Likewise in the West End of s[d] Jaffrey there is a Number of Baptists are now Embodyd into a Society and we Expect that they will Enjoy their Prevelidges without interuption also in the north West part of s[d] town is included Most part of the Grand Monadnock Mountain and some Great ponds and other uninhabitable Lands (Viz) to the amount of Between two and three thousand Acres.

Also Near the Center of s[d] town is Laid out ten acres of a Common and some Considerable of Labour Done upon it and a Burying yard laid out and Some people interred there also the Roads are opened By s[d] Center so as to accommodate a Meetting House.

Now if Such a Division Should take place it will unavoidable Deprive us of many Valuable priviledges Such as Maintaining the Gospel and otherwise.

For Which Reasons aforementioned we your Humble Petitioners Request your Excellency and Honours indulgence in Letting us Enjoy the aforesaid Town of Jaffrey as it now Stands Bounded, therefore trusting to your Excellency and

honours fidelity we your Petitioners Shall as we are in Duty Bound Ever Pray.

Jaffrey April ye 8th 1774

William Mitchell
Francis Wright
Solomon Grout
Oliver Hale
John Gilmore
Oliver Procter
his
Dennis X Organ ?
mark
Samuele Sherwin
John Harper
Simon Warren
Peter Warren
Joseph Hodge
Willm Smiley
Mathew Wright
Jonathan Priest
Daniel Priest
Jona Blodget
Samuel Milliken
William Milliken
Ebenezer Ingalls
Stephen Adams
Peter McAllaster
Robt Dunlap
Joseph Wright
Roger Gilmore
William Turner
Elded Hetbreth ?
John Little
John Stanley
John Smiley
Jonathan Stanley
Isaac Baldwin
Jason Hemmenway
Thomas Adams
Isaac Wesson
Elias Hathorn
Hiram Dean
Ebenezer Hathorn
Samuel Peirce
Ephraim Whitcom
John Borland
Jacob Peirce
William Hogg
William Fisher
Robert Gilmore
David Hunter
John Briante
Kendall Briant
Joseph Cutter
Joseph Thorndick
Joshua Thorndick
Samuel Woodberry

Baptists, Jefrey

Henry Coffeen
Alexr McNeall
Jonathan Jewett
David Goodell
John Henderson
Nathaniel Turner
David Allen
David Stanley

PLAISTOW AND ATKINSON.

[See Atkinson.]

Selectmen of Plaistow's Petition about a Constable.

To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General and Governor In chief In and over His Majesties Province of New hampshire, To the Honor^l Council and Representatives in said Provance, in Genl Assembly Convened, ye 3^d day of Decr 1754.

The Petition of the Subscribers to your Excellency and

Hon^rs^ Humbly Sheweth, that at the annuali Town Meeting held in Plastow by adjornment from the Laste Wensday of March Laste in this Present year then and their Was chosen to the offis of a Constabell for the year then Ensuing Moses Belknap and also by Vote of the Town Samuel Kimbell who was one of our Constabel for the year paste was *ex*cepted of to serve as Constable Present year in the Roome of Benjamin Pettingall who was chosen Constabel at our firste meeting, so it Hapned our Town Clarke Lieu^t^ Thomas Hale omitted Cuming to meeting at our adjornment and Refuseth to Record these men as Constabels Because there was no Clark chosen Pro^tem^ for that Day to Return the Votes to him. As to their being Legally chosen *Ex*cepted of by the Town and sworn it can be attested to not onely by the Moderator but by the Town then present the Town not Noing the Nesesety of a Clerk it was omitted and their arisesth a Dispute in the Town that wee have no Constabels Notwithstanding the Moderators giveing them in to the Town Clerk upon oath and they have ofisiated in their offis by sarving warrants and wee have Committed a Tax or Assessment to them.

If your Excellency and Hon^rs^ would Compassionate ouer Surcumstances and Releave us under ouer Present Deficulty as in your Wisdom shall think beste.

SAMUEL LITTLE
JOHN WEBSTER
THOMAS CHENEY
} Selectmen for Plastow

In Council December 12th 1754
read & ordered to be sent to the Honble House
Theodore Atkinson Sec^y^

Province of New Hamp^re^ } In the House of Representatives Decr 12th 1754 Upon Reading the within Petition and hearing the partys, The House are of opinion y^t^ the Town clerk of Plaistow ought to Record the Votes refered unto in the within Petition and that he be and hereby is directed to do the same.

Matthew Livermore Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurred
Theodore Atkinson Sec^y^

Eodem Die Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Province of New Hampshire } Hampstead November 1st 1754. then the within named Nicholas White Esqr. made Solemn oath that on the Second day of April last past the annual Town Meeting in Plastow in said Province was held by an adjornment at the Meeting House in said Town at which time and place the within writen voats was past.

sworn before Daniel Little Just. peace.

To Left. Thomas Hale town Clerk for Plastow, these are to desire you

forth with to Record ye within written vote in the town Book—they being the true minnits of the town meeting.

Plastow Novemb^r ye 1st 1754

Nicolas White } Moderator for s^d meeting

Province of New Hamp^re } Plastow Aprill ye 2, 1754. At the annuall town meeting this Day hild by adjornment from ye Last Wensday of March Last the meeting being opened at time and place,

By vote of the town Mr. Sam^ll Kimball is *Ex*cept of to serve as Constable this year Ensuing In the Place of Mr. Benjamin Pettengel who was chosan Constabel at our Last meeting Past on the Last Wensday of March.

By vote of the town Mr. Moses Belknapp is chosen Constabel for the west part of ye town for the year Ensewing. Jonathan Page chosen tithing man Steven Dole Hogreaf. the meeting adjourn to the 8th of Aprill Instants at 2 of the clock in the after Noon the town Clark not present

Nicolas White, Moderator

Vote of Haverhill District to set off Timberlain.

At a Legal District meeting Holden at the old meeting House in said District on february ye 9th 1747, on the behalf of a Petition from Timberlane so called with their Desire to be set off into a Destinct Parish by themselves as followeth viz: Beginning at Jonathan Stevens South West corner bound near the Islande Pond then Running by the Easterly Side of Clements Land to his South Easterly Bound then Running by the Northerle side of Caleb Heaths and John Dustans Land to the Brook that Runs from Emersons mill, then Running by the Southerly side of Capt. George Littles and Thomas Littles Land to his Easterly corner Bonnds which is in Cloughs Medow, then Running to the Northwesterly corner of Thomas Hales Land and on the northerly side of said Hale's land and from the North Easterly corner thereof to the nearest Place in Almesbury Line. The said Timber lane ware set of by a vote according to the Bounds above mentioned excepting Capt. George Little and his Son Thomas and Joseph and their Lands to be kept on the South of their Line.

A True Coppe Taken from the Book

Thomas Hale District Clerk

Portsmouth Feb. 13th 1746

Sir.

I am directed by His Excellency to acquaint you that in order to Support the Petition of Peter Petee & others of Haverhill district, it will be necessary to have a plan taken of that district Including Mr. Cushings Parrish & to mark on s^d Plan the Situation of each House. For which service The Govr has appointed Peter Pettee Richard Heath Joseph Little & Thomas Little, who are to take the plan above mention'd upon oath & return it into the Secretarys office, as soon as it can be conveniently done. The charge arising hereon to be born as shall be ordered by the Governor & Council I am Sr.

Your hum^ble Servt

By His Exc^ys Command R. W. Sec^y

To Mr. Thomas Little
in Haverhill district

Petition for a town or parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governour and Commander in Cheif in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp^{re} and the hon^{ble} his Majestys Councill for said Province.

Humbly Shew Your Petitioners Inhabitants in the westerly part of Haverhill District,

That your Petitioners live at a Great Distance from any place where the Publick worship is maintained. That Our Situation is such as is Convenient for a Township or Parish But cannot conveniently be joyned with any other.

That there are already Sixty or Seventy families here setled and more daily Setling who must be under very great Disadvantages with Regard to the Publick worship of God unless we can obtain to have it Setled among Ourselves.

We therefore pray your Excellency & Honours that we may be Incorporated into a Town or Parrish as you shall Judge most proper by the following Bounds Beginning at the westerly corner of Jonathan Stevens' land by the Islandy Pond and from thence to the Northwesterly Corner of Thomas Hales farm and from thence Southerly to the Province line so as to make this line half way between Mr. Cushing's Meeting house and John Watt's at Providence Brook or as near to half way as may be tho't Reasonable, from thence westerly by ye Province line to the head of the District then Northerly so far as that an East line passing from the end of this Northerly line to the first mentioned Bounds shall Include all the Land to the Southward of Islandy Pond.

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

John Watts	Edward Carlton
Seth Pattee	Joseph Little Junr
Richard Patee	John Currier
Michah Amey	James French
Obediah Duston	George Little
Caleb Duston	Samuel Watts
Obediah Eastman	Wyman Wise
Alexander Gordon	Thomas Cross
John Watts Junr	Benjamin Wheeler
Caleb Heath	Stephen Wheeler
Joseph Palmer	Richard Heath
James Heath	John Duston
Samuel Duston	Philip Hite
Moses Belknap	Thomas Duston
Philip Nelson	William Morrison
John Clements	

We the Subscribers Consent to the Lines mentioned in the petition of Daniel Little & others any thing mentioned herein to y^{e} contrary notwithstanding.

JOHN PECKER
JOHN WATTS

Petition against being set off as a new Parish.

To His Excelency Bennen Wintworth Esqr. Capt. General and Governor in chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire, and to the Hon$^{bl\,e}$ Councill of the same.

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers in our own behalf and others, belonging to the Westerly Part of Haverhill District that now belongeth To the Rev. Mr. James Cushings Parrish Humbly Sheweth, that it is our Desier and Prayer that we may not be separated in to any other Town or Parrish (from the Easterly Part) of the District but that we may all be Incorporated in to a Town or Parrish (Excepting what has bin voted off by the District To Timber lane) so that we may Injoy our Priviledge and Proprties for us and our children that we may have our meeting House and our Minister That we have bin at Great Cost and charges for building Seteling and maintaining for near Twenty years last Past and if your Excellency and the Hon^{le} Councill think it proper to mak us a town with the Easterly Part of the District we Shall Leave that to your Hon^{rs} Wisdom, other ways Pray that we may abide as we are and In fullfilling our Desier and Humble Petition you will Greatly oblig your Sarvants,

Who as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray.

Haverhill District December ye 29th 1749

Benj^{m} Richards	Moses Belknap
Jonathan Page	Joseph Little Junr.
John Dow	Eldad Ingalls
Timothy Page	Edmund Page
Caleb Page Junr.	Nathl Knight
James Noyes	Abiel Knight
John French	Robert Greenough
Samuel Little	Humphrey Noyes
Jonathan Page Junr.	Thomas Hale
Joshua Knight	Timothy Ladd
Ebenezer Knight	Caleb Page
Joseph Noyes	John Webster
Thomas Noyes	Daniel Poor
John Knight	Jonathan Nelson
Nathaniel Knight Jun.	Israel Webster
Joseph Page	Jonathan Clements
Daniel Whitticker	Moses Page

Petition of the Inhabitants in the West part of Haverhill District desiring not to be incorporated.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Comander in Cheaf in and over his Majesties province of New hampshear in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council &c.

We the Subscribers being inhabitance in the South west

part of Haverhill District and Included within the Boundarys of the Last Petition brought forward by Capt. John Pecker and Mr. John Watts Considering the small number of Inhabitance and the Low Sircumstances that many of them Labours under it is our Humble opinion that we are no ways able to supporte the Gospell amongst ourselves at present therefore we Desier your Excellency and Honours to take our case under your wise Consideration and not incorporate us into a town or Distinct parrish according to the prayer of the above s[t] Petition till we are better abell to bare the Charges for we are obliged by Contract to the Rev. Mr. Cushen and are not as yet set of from his Parish.

Dated Haverhill District July y[e] 24th 1749

Benj Richards	John Corrier
James Noyes	Eldad Ingalls
Jonathan Nelson	Daniel Poor
Daniel Flood	John Webster
Thomas Noyse Jr.	Jonathan Page
Caleb Page	Thomas Little
Joseph Noyes	Edmund Page
Joseph Page	

Hog & others Petition not to Joyn with Mr. Hazzen according to his Plan.

To his Excelency Bennin Wintworth Esqr. and Honrable Counsel.

We your humble Pertisioners take Leave to Let you know part of our Greavies Coused by Mr. Richard Hazzen Pertisions and plan if he obtains will Cut and Carve our Land & privelage all to pieces who ware Orderly Settled on Kingstown Property & have a Petition Lodg with the Select men of our town in order to be set of as a parish. We pray that we may have the opertunity to Let your Excelency and Honrable Counsel know what the town does for us who are Lawfull Setlars who can have now privelage in that Regard unless we have part of what is in his Plan.

We subscribe ourselves yoor Humble Pertisinors.

Kings[t] September 16th 1740.

James Huse	Isral Huse
Jacob Gordy	Daniel Hiberd
Mesac Gordy	Daniel Kid
Jonathan Colby	Israel Huse Junr.
Orlando Colby	William Straw
Moses Tucker ?	John Pressey
James Graves	John Straw Jun.
John Hog	Philep Wells
Joseph Dow	Jacob Wells
Reuben Clough	Benjamin Tucker
John Straw	Jacob Tucker
John Bond	

NOTE.—A Plan of the district is found in the MS. Vol. p. 284. ED.

Sanborn, Palmer & Weares report of Haverhill District.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r]

May it please your Excellency,

In Obedience to your Excellencys appointment we have View'd het Situations of the Inhabitants of Haverhill District to see if said District may Conveniently be Incorporated into three Townships having Regard to those People of Salisbury and Almsbury District above South Hampton that they may be Provided for in one of the Townships,

And Beg leave to Report

That upon the best survey we Could make and Information we could have from the Inhabitants it appears to us that the Circumstances & Situation of the Inhabitants of said District (as well as their Desire) is such that they cannot at present Conveniently be Incorporated into more than two Townships.

It appears to us that at the upper or Northwesterly part of said District the Inhabitants are Compact and Conveniently Situate for a Township or Parish, The Bounds of which (in Our Opinion) may be as follows. To begin at the North East Corner of Tyngs farm mentioned in Mr. Hazzens Plan and from thence to Run to the South west Corner of Hales farm from thence to Woodbridges Corner Bounds from thence to Morses Corner as mentioned in said Plan and from thence to Run north to Shapleys line then to follow Shapley's line westwardly till it strikes Haverhill Northwest line so called then to follow Haverhill Northwest line to the head of the District, And for the Bounds on the other side to begin at the North East Corner of Tyngs farm beforementioned from thence to run on the line of Tyng's farm, half way to the Bounds on Hog Hill and from thence on a strait Course to Clements Southwest corner bounds by Islandy Pond and then as Described in the Plan to the head of the District. This we think will conveniently make a Township and the other part of the District we cannot find any way be Divided at present to be Incorporated into more than one Tounship to be so well for the Inhabitants as they are now.

John Sandburn
Samuel Palmer
Meshech Weare

Portsm° Sep[r] 18th 1746

Petition of Haverhill district for a new Parish.

To His Exelency Bening Wintworth Esqr. Goviner and Commander in cheaf in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshear in New England and to the Honourable His Majesties Councill &c.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitance in Haverhill Destrict and Province afore s[d] Humbly sheweth, that we are so Remote from the Place of the Publick worship of God that we cannot attend on it unless with Greate Difficulty and our other charges No Less Difficult. May it therefore Please your Excelency and Honours to take our case under your wise Consideration and Incorporate us and all that Do or shall

Inhabit with us and a sufficient Parcell of Land Into a town or Distinct Parrish so that we may sit up and maintain the worship of God amongst us and Carry on Such business as shall be Nessesary with the following Boundaries. Begining at the Stake which stands in the Province Line near Jonathan Clements Dwelling House thence Runing noth notheast till it strikes Haverhill norwest Line thence by s^{d} Line till it Comes to the angle pond thence westerly to the wash Pond and so by the Wash pond brook to the Islande pond and so westerly to London Dary Line thence by s^{d} London dary Line till it comes to Methuen Line thence South easterly by Methuen Line till it comes to the province Line thence by the Province Line to the first Bounds mentioned and you will Gratly oblige your Humble Petitioners and we shall as in Duty bound for ever Pray &c.

Peter Pattee
Richard Heath
Joseph Little
Thomas Little
Moses Page
Samuel Watts
Stephen Dole
Paul Duston
John Dustin
Alexander Gordon
Richard Patee
John Ingalls
Thomas Pope
Benja Rawlings
Caleb Page
Benja Richards
John Dow
Edmund Page
Jonathan Page
Joseph Page
Wyman Wise
Daniel Whitaker
Gershom Pike
Nathan Morss
Timothy Lad
John Corour
Henry Sargent
Abraham Annes
Timothy Page
Thomas Dustin
Obadiah Dustin
Obadiah Eastman
Jonathan Wheeler
Benjamin Wheeler
Stephen Wheeler
Abner Wheeler
Jonathan Wheeler junr
John Corrier Junr
John Watts Jun
Nathaniel Watts
Daniel Poor
Moses Belknap
Joseph Gile
John Clement
Daniel Flood
Jonathan Hutchins
Nathaniel Knight
George Little
John Watts
Joseph Noyes
Ebenezer Knight
Joshua Knight
James Noyes
Humphrey Noyes
Thomas Noyes
John Knight
Nathaniel Knight Jun
Seth Patee
Benjamin Heath

Hazzen and others Petition for a Special Act, &c.

Province of New Hamp^re } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governour and Commander in chief in & over s^d Province of New Hampshire, The Honble His Majesties Council & House of Representatives in General Court assembled at Portsmouth August 1744

Humbly Shew the Subscribers That sometime in the months of September October or November last many persons liveing in Haverhill District in s^d Province or near to the same in the Town of Haverhill had severall of their Cattle taken out of their fields, or pastures and kill'd also Severall Swarms of Bees were stolen & the Honey carry'd off by some thievish & ill minded persons, as also axes Poultry of all sorts & other things.

That severall of the hides were found in that part of s^d District which is Commonly called Rumford Parish either hid in barns under ye hay, or in other dark holes with the head and horns cut off for which reason with many other evidences we are well satisfied, the actors of these thefts & Robberies live most of them in s^d District or Parish.

That forasmuch as these actions are for the most part committed in the dark where positive evidences can scarcely ever be had, it is very hard & difficult to detect & convict the criminals in the Ordinary course and Method of the Law, by which means the Guilty are become verry bold & daring in their evil practices and the sufferers not like to have any recompense unless Some further provision in the law can be made.

We therefore Earnestly request your Excellency & Honours to Compassionate our distressed circumstances and afford us releif either by making Some act to bring suspected persons & their aiders & assistants on their oaths which we humbly conceive has been of Great Service in Trespass or Otherwise as your Excellency & Honours in your known wisdom goodness & piety shall think best & for your Excellency & Honours your Humble petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Stephen Huse
Daniel Bradley
James McHard had stolen 3 fatt Catl & on Hors & Cow
Samuel White Jun.
Richard Hasseltine
Samuel Johnson
Stephen Dow
Stephen Wheteaker
William Stevens
Nehemiah Stevens
Peter Morse
Edward Calton Jun.
Benja Gale
Henery Springler
Nathaniel Balch
Solomon Springler
Daniel ———
Nathaniel March
Jonathan Springler
James Wise
Edward pees Hoit ?
Isaac Johnson
James Black

Richard Hazzen
Joshua Bayley had stolen a swarm of Bees
Edward Flint
Edmund Greenleaf
Nathaniel Walker
David Marsh
James Pearson
Jno Mitchel
James How Lost a swarm of Bees
Benja Grele
Jacob Chase swarm of bees.
John Pecker on cowe
Willm Folnsby
Nathan Heseltine
Natthan Merrill
Abner Kimball
Richard Emerson
Abraham Kimball
John Molton
Jonathan Shepard
Nehemiah Emerson
James Emerson
Joseph Litel?
William Johnson Jun.
Samuel Wontes
Henry Herring
Obadiah Parry
James Ayer one swarm of bees
Abiel Foster
Samuel White
John White Jun.
Joseph Atwood
Moses How
Joseph Patten
Jas Pecker
Nathaniel Knowlton
Isaac Dalton
Obediah Emerson
Thos Little
Jonathan Webster
Oliver Sanders
—— Frink
Ebenr Belnap
John Osgood Jun.
Jonathan Leafkin
Daniel Poor
Jonathan March
William Samson
Moses Hazzen
Benjamin Richards
Daniel Davies
Nath Cogswell
Joseph Clement
Obadiah Bellknap
Wm Handcock
Thomas Follansbe
Timothy Emerson
Jonathan Stevens
Joh. Stewart, on fat cowe stolen
Alexandr Cambil on fat cowe

Memorial of Col. James White and others.

Province of New Hamp^re } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Governor the Honourable his Majesties Council and Representatives of said Province in General Court assembled.

The Memorial of James White and others humbly sheweth Whereas by a late act or Law of this Province the Town of Plaistow is Divided and part of it become a New and Separate Parish, which Includes our Houses and Lands, we apprehend that our Situation and other Circumstances will render it very Difficult for us to become members of the said new Parish. And it being Just and reasonable to alow all men freedom and Liberty with respect to the choice of a society wherein to join in Public worship—

We therefore Pray that your Excellency and Honours will according to your wonted favours Enact and order that we with our Estates may be set off from said new Parish, be annex'd and belong to said Plaistow (old Parish) in the Same

manner as heretofore. And we as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray.

Sep[r] 1767

James White
John Webster
Israel Webster
John Webster Jun.
Jonathan Eatton
Moses Page
Jonathan Webster
William Webster
Daniel Whiticker
Daniel Poor
Daniel Poor jun.
Jonathan Page
Stephen Noyes
Humphrey Noyes
Robart Greenough

Petition of Sundry Inhab[ts] of Plaistow.

Province of New Hamp[re] } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General Governor & Comander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province aforesaid &c: & the Honorable his Majestys Council and the House of Representatives in General Court Assembled at Portsmouth.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Shews,

Whereas there has been lately part of Plaistow set off and made a new & Seperate Parish bounded according to certain Lines which goes by the Name of Atkinson in which we with Our Estates falls into the said new Parish, Our Prayer & request to this Honourable Court above mentioned is that Whereas we have heretofore assisted in building a Meeting House a Parsonage House & have now a Minister settled in Plaistow according to our principles & minds Therefore Our Desire & request is that We with our Estates may be set off from said New Parish and be annexed to the Old Parish or Town of Plaistow that we might be & remain as heretofore.

We therefore Pray that your Excellency and Honors will take the matter under Consideration & grant such Relief for those who desire to be set off as aforesaid as you in your wisdom shall think best, And we as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c.

James White
Moses Greenough
Jonathan Eaton
Samuel Kimball

Plaistow Septemb[r] 1767

Province of New Hamp[re] } In the House of Representatives Septem[r] 14th 1767
The within Petition being Read & Considered,
Voted that the Petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the first day of Novem[r] next & that they serve Mr. Thomas Noyes who is appointed to call the first meet-

ing in said Atkinson with a Copy of this Petition & Order that Objections may be made to granting the Prayer of the Petition if any there be.

M. Weare Clr.

In Council Eod^m Die
Read & Concurred
T. Atkinson Jr. Sec.

Vera Copia
T. Atkinson Jun Sec

Petition for release from support of Hugh Potter.

Province of New Hamp^re } To His Excellency the Governor to the Honble His Majestys Council, and the House of Representatives of said Province in General Court assembled May ye 18th A Domini 1774

In behalf of the Town of Plaistow in the County of Rockingham in said Province—the Petition of the Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor of said Town of Plaistow Humbly Sheweth,

That about Twenty years Since one Hugh Potter, a very aged man, without leave or liberty orderly had, or obtained, from Said Town, or the Selectmen thereof, Did come into and Obtrude himself upon the said Town of Plaistow by takeing residence therein, & dwelling there to this day—That according to the best accounts from the said Potter he was a native of Great Britain & had never gained a legal settlement elsewhere.

That from Early life till near the time of his Coming into said Plaistow he the said Potter had been in his Majestys Service both by sea & land, and that he had been in several Fights as long ago as in ye Reign of Queen Ann &c. and that by reason of ye s^d Hughs account of & about himself he was not legally warned to depart out of the Said Town of Plaistow. That the said Hugh Potter has been unable to support & maintain himself ever since his residence in said Town. That for Seventeen years last past the said Hugh Potter hath been maintained & supported at the Public Cost & charge of ye s^d Town of Plaistow, that the Cost & charge thereof has not been less than Eleven pounds lawful money p^r an^m for several years past, and is now increasing So as greatly to Distress, & burthen the s^d Town &c.

Wherefore the petitioners in behalf of said Town of Plaistow Humbly pray yr. Excel^cy & Hon^rs to take ye premises under consideration and in your great goodness Grant and make an order that the s^d Hugh Potter may for the future be maintained, & supported at the Cost & charge of this, his Majes-

tys Province of New Hampshire & that the said Town of Plaistow be no longer Chargeable with his support and likewise favour us on account of ye charges we have been at in time past or such other way & manner as your Excel^y^ & Hon^rs^ shall think best to relieve ye s^d^ Town & the Pet^rs^ as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Plaistow May ye 17th 1774

JOSEHH WELCH, DAVID STEVENS, EZEKIEL GILE } Selectmen & Overseers of ye Poor of Plaistow

In Council May 18, 1774

The Petition was read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly

Geo. King, Dep. Sec.

In the House of Representatives May 19th 1774

The within Petition Read & Considered and Voted that it be Dismissed.

M. Weare, Clerk

PIERMONT.

Petition of the Com^tee^ of Piermont to the Governor.

Province of New Hamp^re^ } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire.

The Petition of us the Subscribers being a Committee of the Proprietors of Piermont in said Province, Humbly Sheweth

That in the year 1765, The said Proprietors had a Grant of said Township under certain conditions of settlement to be performed in Five years from the date of said Grant, and that your Petitioners have laid out and expended Large sums of money in Cultivating said Town & have settled Fourteen Families Thereon, but nevertheless, Through badness of Roads, and the Impossibility of obtaining Provision in that part of the Country and also by means of the said Petitioners being Employed a Considerable part of their time in Transacting the Publick business of the Province, they have not been able fully to comply with the conditions of the charter of said Town, and Therefore Humbly Pray your Excellency would Grant a further Reasonable Time to the said Proprietors, to Fulfill the same and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c.

Portsmouth December 22nd 1770

Mark H. Wentworth
Jonathan Warner
John Tuften Mason Esq
Geo. Jaffrey
Rich[d] Jenness
Jon[a] Moulton
D. Warner
D. Peirce
John Goffe
Clem[t] March
William Parker
Christo[r] Toppan

PLYMOUTH.

Petition for leave to send a Representative.

Province of New Hampshire Grafton ss } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire &c.

The Petition of the Free holders of the Town of Plymouth within the County of Grafton aforesaid, Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners some months past preferred a Petition to your Excellency praying for the privilege of a Representation for said Town of Plymouth, in the Legislative Authority in said province, Agreeable to the Right inherent in them, as Englishmen and Freeholders.

That said Petition by some means or other was dismissed.

That your humble Petitioners again earnestly Pray your Excellency would take this petition under your wise consideration and grant them that privilege they think their Just Due by issuing a Precept for the choice of a proper person to represent them in the General Assembly Their Interest now suffering much for want of that most invaluable Privilege And your humble Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c.

Sam Emerson
James Harvell } Selectmen
Thomas Lucas

John Fenton
Abel Webster
Gersm Fletcher
Francis Worcester
Josiah Brown
Stephen Webster
John Willoughby
David Webster
James Blodget
David Hobart
George Hull
Benja Goold
Jacob Merrill
David Nevens
Ebenezer Hartshorn
William Nevens
Jonas Ward
Edward Evans
William Simpson
Moses Dow
Onesiferous Marsh
William Greenough
Elisha Bean
Samuel Marsh
Joseph Smith
Saml Derben
Thomas M'Cluer
Jonathan Blodget

Joseph Brown
Gershom Hobart
James Barnes
Phineas Lovejoy
Peter Stearns
Jotham Cumings
Stephen Webster jun.
Jonathan Blodget
Peter Dearborn
Paul Wells
Benjamin Wells
Zebediah Richardson
George Patterson
Zachariah Parker
Solomon Wheeler
Joseph Wheeler
James Ryan
Ephraim Kelse
Nahum Powers
Jacob Marsh
John Webber

Petition for a re-survey of land &c.

Province of New Hamp^re } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. General Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honourable his Majesty's Council and house of Representatives in General Assembly Convened.

The Petition of us the Subscribers being a Committee chosen by the Proprietors of Plymouth Humbly Sheweth, That the Corner boundary of Four Townships viz: Plymouth, Campton, Rumney and Cockermouth depends upon a certain Point or End of a Line, Nineteen Miles in Length, upon a Certain Point of Compass from a Certain Tree at Connecticut River. That the Severall Partys have at their own Private Cost made Several Surveys but do not agree one with another, Either in Length of Line or point of Compass, which throws the said Townships into Great Confusion and uncertainty, Concerning their Boundaries, and Greatly Retards the Settlement of the Land. Wherefore your Petitioners pray the advisement of This Honourable Court and that a Committee may be appointed to survey the said Nineteen miles and thereby to Establish the said Corner Boundary.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever pray &c.

Portsmouth December 20th 1770

S. Livermore } Committee
Moses Little } for Plymouth

Province of New Hamp^re } In the House of Representatives Decr 22^d 1770
Voted that the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on the fourth Day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the first Day of March next and that the Petitioners Cause the Substance of this Petition and Order of Court to be Published in the New Hamps^re Gazett six weeks that any person may shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition should not be Granted.

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council Jany 18th 1771
Read and concurred
Geo King Dep Sec.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives March 26 1771. The Within Petition Considered and Voted that it be Dismissed

M. Weare Clr.

Petition for a representative.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain general governor & commander in chief in & over said province of New Hampshire &c. &c.

The petition of us the Subscribers freeholders & inhabitants of Plimouth in the county of Grafton in the Province aforesaid,

Most Humbly Sheweth

that the said town of Plimouth is one of the best inhabitted towns in said County and one of the towns appointed by ye law of this province for holding the courts of Justice in, and that no representative hath hitherto been chosen within the said County to sit in the General Assembly of this province. They therefore pray your Excellency's consideration of the premises, and that the said petitioners may be admitted to the privilege of sending a representative to the next General Assembly & your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

January 19th 1774

William Simpson
Peter Emerson
Sam Emerson
David Hobart
Abel Webster Town clerk
James Harvel
David Webster
John Willoughby selectman
William Nevens
Daniel Wheeler
Peter Hobart
Thomas Mclner
Joseph Smith
Jacob Marsh
Amos Webster
James Hobart
Francis Worcester
Joseph Brown
Josiah Brown
Benjamin Dearborn
Amos Phillips
Jotham Cumings
Phineas Loyejoy
Ebenr Hartshorn
Stephen Webster
Solomon Blood
Peter Stearns
Silas Brown
Eleazer Parker
Solomon Wheeler
James Ryan
Gersm Fletcher
John Webster
Stephen Webster Jun.
Benja Derben
Ebenr Blodget
James Blodget
Edward Evans
Zebediar Richardson
David Nevens
Renjamin Goold
Samuel Derben
James Marsh
Winthrop Wells
Elisha Bean
Thomas Lucas
Abijah Wright
Jonas Ward
Henry Phelps
George Hull
Nathl Hull
John Calfe
Gershom Hobart

VOLUME VI.

PORTSMOUTH TO WOLFEBOROUGH.

PORTSMOUTH.

[This is one of the oldest towns in the State, having been settled in the year 1623. Its Indian name was Pascataquack, and the first English name was *Strawberry Bank*. It was incorporated by the name of Portsmouth, 28 May 1753, by the Colony of Massachusetts, under whose government the people of New Hampshire then were. The inhabitants in their petition for incorporation say, "the name of this plantation at present being *Straberry Banke*, accidentally so called by reason of a banke where strawberries *was* found in this place": They humbly desired "to have it called PORTSMOUTH, being a name most suitable for this place, it being the river *mouth* and *good harbor as any in this land*." JOHN FARMER, Esq.]

Orders relating to a School.

Portsm° 16 Novr 1708.

Notwithstanding the pious care of the Governor Council and Assembly of this Province in Raysing a free Gramar Schoole for the province to be kept in the town of Portsmouth being the head of the Government & their good provision for the maintainance of the master:

The Council are now Informed that there is no provision made by the Toun of Portsmouth for a Schoole house for the receipt of the master and schollars:—

Ordered, that the selectmen of the toun of Portsmouth be notifyed of their neglect herein, and that they forthwith provide a suitable house for the said schoole to be kept, that the schollars may not lose their time within three days next coming upon the penalty of forty pounds to be levyed upon their persons & estates as other fines & *charge ?* into the treasury to be expended in the building of a good schoole house for the future service, that the aforesaid good and religious Act of the Assembly be not evaded & eluded.

May &c (as early as 1709).

Upon the vacancy of the School by Mr. Gambling's desire to be discharged, the Council have taken it into Consideration of calling a new school ma^r^ who would very gladly submit to yo'r Exce^ll^ Recommodation of Mr Dudly Broadstreet; but fearing he would not be every way soe agreable have therefore by the good character they have had of Mr. Danl Ringe of Ipswich, to give him a call and agree with him for 4 years According to the Act—humbly desiring y^r^ Excell^y^ concurrence therewith.

[See Act referred to, Prov. Pap., Vol. III. pp. 364, 365. ED.]

Petition for a grant of land.

To his Excellency Sam[l] Shute Esq[r] Capt. Gen[l] & Comander in Chief in & over his Maj'ties Province of New Hamp[r], and to the Hon[bl] the Council for said Province:

The humble Petition of the selectmen of the Town of Portsm[o] within the Prov[ce] of New Hamp[r]—Humbly sheweth:

That the former Select men for the s[d] Town of Portsm[o] sometime since Petition'd to your Excellency and Hon[rs] to have a small tract of land granted to the Inhabitants of s[d] Portsmouth at the head of Dover, w[ch] was granted, and upon view of the s[d] tract of land and mature consideration thereon your Petition[rs] find that it will not answer for the intended Settlement.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray to have the liberty to withdraw the s[d] Petition and to have a tract of land granted for a Township to the Inhabitants of Portsmouth whom we represent, of six miles front and eleven miles back into the woods to be divided among the s[d] Inhabitants in proportion to their rates agreable to a vote past at a Town meeting of the s[d] inhabitants in March last past, beginning four miles and half from Dover North east corner bounds upon Dover head line, then to run from the s[d] head line upon a South west point half a point northerly two miles for the depth of the Land granted to the Iron works; Then the said Tract to begin at the end of the s[d] two miles and run upon the Same point Eleven miles into the woods, and from thence upon a parallell line wth Dover head line six miles to New Boston northerly corner, and from the end of the two miles afores[d] six miles upon a parallell line wth Dover head line to New Boston easterly line which makes an oblong or Long square tract of Land as is laid down in a plot here annext: And your Petition[rs] as in duty bound will ever pray.

THO[s] PEIRCE
JOHN CUTT
JOSEPH MOULTON
Selectmen for the toun of Portsm[o]

The prayer of the petition granted.
May 4, 1722.
R. Waldron, Cler. Con.

Request to the Selectmen of Portsmouth.

To the Select men of the town of Portsm[o] in New Hampshire:

Gentlemen: Whereas in an Act of this Province (of y[e] 4th year of his Majesty King George) entituled an Act for y[e] better regulating of Town and Proprietary Meetings, among other things, It is enacted in the words following: "That when and so often as ten of the free-

"holders of any Town shall signify under their hands to the select-"men their desire to have any matter or thing inserted into a warrant "for calling a town meeting, the Selectmen are *hereby required* to "insert ye Same in the next warrant they shall issue for ye calling a "Town meeting"—

And Whereas at a thin meeting of the said Toun held by adjourm^t in said Toun, the 7th of September, 1724, several votes were past as we conceive w^thout due consideration, respecting the three nooks & gores of land mortgaged to Maj^r Wm. Vaughan, which votes (in our opinion) are unreasonable & unjust, and to us a great greivance, & (as we are given to understand) very disagreeable and * * * contrary to ye mind of ye toun in general:

Therefore, We the subscribers & freeholders of ye said Town, do now by these Presents signify to you y^t it is our desire to have ye said votes reconsidered at ye next town meeting, in order to have ye subject matter thereon more maturely & deliberately discussed & repass'd upon to ye end that strict justice may be done, our grievance removed & ye town contented touching ye premises; and accordingly do earnestly pray that the same be inserted into the next warrant (alias notification) which you shall issue for ye calling a town meeting Pursuant to the afores^d (in part recited) Act.

In testimony of our desire as aforementioned we have hereunto set our hands.

ye 26th of Feby 1724–5.

(Copy)

Petition in relation to a meeting house at the Plains.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives convened in General Assembly.—

The Petition of Sundry his Majestys loyal Subjects, Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Southwesterly Part of the town of Portsmouth in said Province:

Most humbly sheweth: That about seven years agoe several of your Petitioners with some others (at a vast expence) erected a House for the Publick worship of God at the Plains (so called) in said Portsmouth; and from the month of January 1725 to March 1727, defray'd the charge of constant preaching in the said house, paying their full Proportion of the Parish Tax for the support of the Gospel Ministry at the Bank at the Same time; But that Burthen bearing a little too heavy, the Proprietors of the said house and others commodiously situated for attending the Publick worship there, at length requested the Parish to which they belong'd to exonerate them from any further levys towards the subsistance of the Reverend Mr. Fitch, which they (like well-dispos'd & true Christian brethren) by a unanimous vote dated the 4th of

March 1727, in a full Parish meeting readily comply'd with; in order to enable the said Proprietors and others to maintain the Publick worship of God with the greater cheerfulness & more ease amongst themselves, which they have done with the utmost alacrity (for the most part) ever since, and found unspeakable comfort therein. But forasmuch as the method for defraying the charge aforesaid hath hitherto been by a free subscription, which has had considerable Inconveniency attending it—some paying much more & some much less than their due Proportions, and Some few nothing at all, either there or elsewhere; and moreover your humble petitioners (upon serious consideration) earnestly desiring a full enjoyment of the Gospel ordinances amongst themselves, from a sincere aim at the glory of God and the Health of their immortal souls, do now most humbly supplicate your Excellency and Honours to grant them an Act of Incorporation for a Parish by the metes and Bounds mention'd in the aforesaid Parish Vote;—an exemplification of which properly authenticated is hereunto annex'd, with the full powers and authoritys of a Parish—excluding all those that belong to the Mill dam Parish by Law (that desire to be excluded) if by Law any such Parish there be.

Your Excellency and Honours are so well acquainted with the common arguments in such Petitions (viz.) The great distance from the Meeting-house; the vast difficulty of travel (especially for women & children; & more especially at some seasons of the year) that not more than one in five or six can go up to the house of God, and that therefore they are in danger of perishing for lack of vision; labouring under a Famine of the word, &c. that your Petitioners dont think it proper to essay any Illustrations on those common themes, but humbly take leave only to offer an observation or two for the further enforcing their request, viz.

1st That there are to the best of their knowledge Eighty families, (besides the Familys of six widows) one hundred & eight ratable heads & four hundred and fifty souls or thereabout within the bounds mentioned in the aforesaid vote.

N. B. There are half a dozen Familys or more consisting of thirty souls at least (not comprehended in the bounds abovesaid,) more commodiously situated to attend the Publick worship at the Plains Meeting-House than any where else.

2. That in the year 1727 (as they are informed) there was at Greenland but 92 ratable Polls, tho' that has been a Parish between 20 & 30 years; at Newington but 92 which has been a Parish near 20 years, at New Castle but 82; at New Market but 78; and at Rye but 72: By which it appears that the Reasons for making a Parish in the Southwest Part of Portsmouth are much greater with respect to numbers, than they

were for incorporating either of the Parishes aforesaid, & on all other accounts the same; and therefore as your Petitioners cannot in the least doubt of your Excellency's & Honours religious disposition to promote the glory of God & good of souls, so neither can they suspect the success of a prayer supported by weightier Reasons, when so many Petitions of like sort, but with much lighter Reasons have so often prevailed. We are your Excellency's & Honours most dutiful & obedient servants and shall ever pray as in Duty bound.

P. S. May it consist with the wisdom of the Legislature, to put the Petitioners on the same footing with the Parish of Greenland in Regard to an Assembly Man & the Province Tax without further concern with Portsmouth.

Nathanel Peverly
Thomas Snell
James Libby
Samson X Babb, his mark
John Bruster
John Marshal
Hen. Sherburne, jun.
Joseph Nelson
Summers Clark
Thomas Sherburne
his
John X Ham
mark
John Tomson
Israel Hight
Sampson Babb
his
Ricard X Babb
mark
James Rowe
John Hight
Charles X Brown, his mark.
Mick. Abbot
John Brown
James X Benson, his mark.
Joel X Wisem? mark
Jams X Worson, mark
Sam[l] Sherburne
Jos X Moroson, mark
Nathaniel Sherburn
Matthew Nelson
John Langdon

Henry Benet
William Lang
John X Simons, mark
——— Holms, mark
John Peaverly
Richard X Honywal? mark
Joseph Langdon
Samuel Homes
Thomas Cotton
Henkman X Fose, mark
Cesfo? X Noble, mark
Nath[l] Tuckerman
Nicholas Norris
Noah Sevy
Thomas Read
Jn[o] Walker
Anthony Rowe, mark
Sam[l] Bruster
Sam[l] White
Joshua Bruster
John Sherburne
James Wood
Henry Benson
John Langmd
Phillip Babb
Jerimiah Holms
John Holms
Benjamin Holms
Lazarus Nobel
Israel Hunewell
Sam[l] Row
Charles Frost
[Several names appear to be cut off.]

Margaret Nelson
Grace Row, widow,
Wid. Sarah Tomson.

In Council March 8th 1732-3.

Read and unanimously voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted & that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a bill accordingly.

R. Waldron, Secy.

In the House of Representatives, March 9, 1732-3.

Read and Voted, that the within petition be referred, until the 3^{d} day of the next Sessions of the General Assembly, & that the Upper and lower Parrishes in the Town of Portsm^{o} be served with a copy of the Petition, and that so they may appear at the time above s^{d} then to shew reason if any they have why the prayer of the petition should not be granted.

George Walton, clr. Pro temp^{r}

March 10, 1732-33, Concurred
R. Waldron, Secy.

Same day consented to
J. BELCHER.

Petition relating to dividing the Common land in Portsmouth.

To his Excellencie Jonathan Belcher Esqr Capt. Generall & Commander in Chief, in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of Newhampshire, and the Honble his Maj^{ties} Councill for said Province:

The humble Petition of Henry Sherburn Esqr Ephraim Dennet Esqr Joshua Pierce Esqr and Mr. William Cotton for themselves and others, a Committee for the dividing the Common Land of the Town of Portsmouth, In behalfe of the Proprietors of the said Common Land, most humbly *Sheweth:*

That in the yeare 1699, The^{r} was at a legall Town meeting held at Portsmouth a vote Past for the dividing the common Land of the said Town amongst the then Inhabitants, and persons as a Committee for Doing the same then appointed, and from Time to Time continued of which Com^{tee} the above are the Major part: which Committees from Time to Time ever since (when not obstructed by the Indian Warr,) has continued to lay out the said Comon lands to all such as had Right, and such Rights quietly enjoyed untill the year of our Lord 1716; Since which yeare Sundry of the Proprietors of the Comon land about Greenland adjoining to the town of Streatham have been molested and hindered from improving their Rights by the Inhabitants of said Town of Stretham, and several Lawsuits commenced which is the cause of great trouble & charge &c. all which happened by the misaplying the Grant or Charter of the Town of Stretham, as y^{r} Pettition^{rs} humbly presumes, which they humbly sheweth happens as hereafter exprest:

On the 10th day of January 1715-16, sundry persons calling themselves the Inhabitants of Squamscot Pattent (Tho' there never was any such * Pattent) Petitioned the *the* Honble

* This is incorrect; unless there is a confusion of terms—making a distinction between the Squamscott *and* Hilton's Point Patent. See and compare Prov. Pap. Vol. I. pp. 221-224, and General and Hist. Reg. 1870, where the Hilton's Point Patent *alias* Squamscott, is printed in full. ED.

George Vaughan Esqr then Liv^t Governor and Comander in Chiefe in and over this Province of New hampshire to be set off as a Township; and therein prescribs bounds; The said Liu^t Governor with the advice of his Maj^ties Councill did, on the twenty^th day of March then next following, grant the Petition and gave them a Charter according to the Bounds prescribed (with the exceptions of fower families,) as by the Charter may be seen.

Now those persons that called themselves the Inhabitants of Squamscot Patent Did live upon a tract of land that its usually said was granted by the Councill of Plim^o to one Edwd Hilton and his Associates three miles into the Country from the Maine river going up to Exeter, and as such the Towns round about acknowledged them, and none ever interfered or claimed within the three miles from the Maine River south east into the country; and tho' all their land fell within the auntient bounds of the Town of Portsmouth, yet the Town Voted that three miles that Mr. Andrew Wiggans claimed should still be to him & his heirs &c. And the grandfather of the familly of the present Wiggans (upon the marriage of Son to the Daughter of Govr Bradstreet) made a Deed of Gift of that part of the said Hilton's Patent which he claimed (being three miles square) and called it Squamscot, the bounds of which Deed were only three miles south-east from Exeter River, and no Dispute happened till since the grant to the Town of Stretham as aforesaid. In running the Bound of which according to the said Charter (at the West end of the Wiggan's grant) by an advantage of a Southerly turn of Exeter River, the south bound of Stratham (against the Wiggan's Grant is fower miles very neare upon a South east point) at the west end of Portsmouth bounds and they claime that land between the Charter line and the afores^d Wiggan's Right and so to a Gore at the easterly end, and say that it was confirmed to them by virtue of the Grant by Liv^t Governor Vaughan to Stretham aforesaid; Which notion had and Dos govern much with our country juries; So that those persons that have their Comon Rights laid out between the lines aforesaid are in a perpetual controversie and law suits.

For Remedy whereof

Your Petitioners for themselves and the others of their Society as a Comittee and in behalfe of the Proprietors of the Comon Land of Portsmouth, most humbly prays your Excellency & the Honble Councill, That as the Grant for the Town of Stretham was made only by that Honble Board, That an Explanation be made of Stretham charter (that as Wee humbly presume) that this Board in that Grant, Did not att all medle or pretend to alter the Right of the soile; and alsoe Wee pray that this Hon^o Board would alsoe appoint a Comittee of In-

different persons to rune the Dividing line between Portsmouth and that Deed of Thomas Wiggans Esqr to his son Andrew Wiggans; The Town having no Dispute beyond the Bounds of that Deed which Deed is conformable to the Patten of Edward Hilton and associates aforesaid; And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

HEN: SHERBURNE
EPHR^m DENNET
JOSH: PEIRCE.

Portsmouth, Jan. 3^d, 1733-4.

Petition of the South Parish in Portsmouth.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher, Esq. Governor & Commander in chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England, the Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, in General Court convened, the 31st Day of January, Anno Dom. 1739.

The Petition of James Clarkson, Esqr Thom^s Wright & Daniel Pierce Merch^ts all of Portsm^o in said Province, a Committee of the South Parish in Portsm^o afores^d, and as agents for & in behalf of the said Parish:

Humbly sheweth:

That there has been for some considerable time a difference subsisting between the North and South Parishes in said Town respecting the settlement of their Parishioners and the removal of certain persons from one Parish to the other & the Taxes to be paid by such persons toward Parish charges:

That sundry persons that have removed from the attendance of the Public worship in the North Parish afores^d and have settled themselves or constantly attended the said worship in the South Parish afores^d for some considerable time past, have notwithstanding been rated or taxed toward the charges of the said North Parish, & so in consequence of such removal have been obliged to pay both;

That the greater part of those who have so removed have been induced thereto by a Prospect of Better accommodations for themselves & families in the meeting-house they have removed to, and think it a hard case that they must purchase those accommodations by paying a double Tax;

That those persons have not been able (tho' it has been several times requested) to obtain a regular dismission from the said North Parish, nor have the Parishes at any meetings, or by their delegates (tho' Essays have been made) been able to come to any terms of composition relating to the Premises;

That the said South Parish conceives the Rule & Method by which new parishioners have been & still are to be settled in said Parishes, is such as gives the said North Parish (which is much the superior for numbers & riches of its Inhabitants) greatly the advantage, and that therefore it is highly reasonable that a new and more equitable Rule for that purpose should be establish'd & the former suspended.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray that a Law may be now enacted agreeable to a Vote of the Honorable the House of Representatives for said Province, of the 15th of Novr 1738, Respecting the premises (and herewith exhibited) excepting only a clause in said vote Relating to such young men as should settle on the Estates of their fathers &c. But that the settlement of such persons should be determined by the same Rule therein proposed for the settling of other young men in the said Parishes & strangers that shall come to settle in the said Town; or that such other methods or Rules of fixing Parishioners in the said Parishes may be established as this Honble Court in their great Wisdom & Goodness shall think equitable & just between the said Parishes.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

James Clarkson
Thomas Wright
D. Pierce.

Feby. the first 1739. In the House of Representatives:
The within Petition Read & voted, that the Petitioners serve the Wardens of the North Parish in Portsmouth with a copy of this Petition at the Petitioners charge, and that they appear to be heard Tuesday the 12th Currt to shew cause why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted, if the General Court is then sitting; if not then to appeare the third day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly next Sessions.

James Jeffry, Cler. Assm

In Council, Febv 6th 1739-40.
Read and concurr'd.

Richd Waldron, Secy.

I assent to the above votes,

Febv 6, 1739-40. J. Belcher.

In the House of Representatives, Febv 7th A. D. 1739-40. Upon reconsidering the above Vote of the House: Voted, That the Petitioners serve the Wardens of the North Parish in Portsmouth with a copy of this Petition, and the above order.

James Jeffry, Cler. Assm

In Council, Febv 8th 1739.
Read & Concurred.

Richd Waldron, Secy

Febv 8th 1739-40. Assented to

J. Belcher.

In Council, Febv 15th 1739-40,
Read, and on motion made by the Respondents, and the Petitioners being heard in answer to the sd motion,

Voted That the consideration of the Petition be suspended till ye next session of the general Court

R. Waldron, Secy.

Remonstrance of Portsmouth Selectmen.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, In General Court Convened, Jany 31, 1739.

The Remonstrance of the selectmen of the town of Portsmouth in said Province, *Humbly Shews*

That the Laws of the Province that relate to the admission of new Inhabitants into any of the Towns in this Province & the removal of such persons as obtrude themselves upon the Towns, are very defective in many Respects, so that the good purposes that were even designed by those Laws cannot be attain'd:

That the said Town of Portsmouth from its situation is greatly exposed to the entrance of strangers by sea, from which Quarter many enter & become Inhabitants even in spite of all opposition & often a charge to the town; for the prevention whereof there is no effectual Provision in the said Laws:

That Laws well calculated to remove or Prevent the said Inconveniency would certainly be of general Benefit & would serve the Interest of every town in the Province & the larger Towns in a more especial manner:

Wherefore your Remonstrants beg leave humbly to propose that the Laws already in force Relating to the premises might be perus'd by this Honble Court, or such as they shall appoint to that service & such an additional Act speedily enacted as will be necessary for the purposes afores^d^

Your Remonstrants beg leave further to observe:

That the Town of Portsm^o^ afores^d^ in many places of it being built in a compact manner and in some places there are old houses with broken chimneys, ovens &c. and the dwelling in these houses especially in the winter season greatly exposes them to the danger of fire, by which, if they should be consumed whole streets might meet with the same fate.

Wherefore they humbly pray that a Law may now be made authorizing some officer or officers upon request to view such old houses & to determine whether they are in a condition fit to be occupied as Dwelling Houses; and if not to order the

repair thereof at the expense of the Proprietor (so far as shall be necessary for the common safety) or to remove the occupants of such houses, or to take such other measures as this Honble Court shall in their great wisdom & goodness think proper in a case of such Importance; for which your Remonstrants, as in duty bound (in behalf of their Principals) will ever pray &c.

Wm Parker
Saml Bruster
Wm Bennet
Thos Wibird
D. Peirce
} Selectmen

In the House of Representatives, Feby the 14th 1739--40.

The within Mem^o read, and Voted, That Mr. Hunking Wentworth & Capt. Edwd Hall be a Comittee of this House to joyne with such as the Honble Council shall appoint to draw up an act relating to the admition of Town Inhabitants; and appointing Committees (or officers) relating to old defective Houses & Chimneys; and for regulating the poor, and putting out such children apprentices as are likely to become chargeable to any town or precinct, or whose parents do not take due care of them.

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m

In Council Feby 19, 1739-40.

Read and Concurred, and Joshua Peirce & Theo': Atkinson Esqr appointed to joyn in the service above.

Richd Waldron, Sec^y.

Same day assented to,

J. Belcher.

Answer to a Petition relating to the choice of James Clarkson, Esq., as representative.

To the Honble the House of Representatives for the Province of New Hampshire, met in General Assembly, Decr 31st 1745.

The Answer of the Selectmen of the Town of Portsmouth in said Province, to the Petition of sundry persons respecting the late choice of James Clarkson Esqr to be one of the Representatives of said Town in General Assembly:—

May it please this Honble House—As it was the order of the House that we should be served with a copy of the Petition afores^d we presume 'twas with Design to hear what we had to say in answer to it, tho' not express'd in the order, & therefore beg leave to answer the said petition in the following method, viz: First, to represent the case as we apprehend the truth of the facts to be, & then to shew why the prayer of

this petition ought not to be granted, for which we pray the patience, attention, & impartial consideration of this Hon^bl House.

The case was thus:—Pursuant to a precept to us, Wee gave notice to the voters in the usual manner of the time, place & occasion of holding a meeting, which was duly attended; a moderator chosen & then the votes in writing bro't in for a Representative, which were fairly put into a Box standing before the moderator & clerk, by the voters passing by man by man. When all were bro't in, the votes were turned out on a table & counted by the moderator & Clerk. It appeared there were only two candidates, viz. James Clarkson & Joshua Peirce Esq^rs In conducting the whole affair thus far, there was not the least appearance of any disorder or unfair practice. When the counting of the votes was finished & the number of votes for each candidate was known to some, tho' not declared by the Moderator, some of the voters on the side of the Lowest number being disappointed in their expectation, declared their Dissatisfaction, that there was some mistake, & thereupon a Poll was demanded. Here we must observe, all was quiet & still, not the least Dissatisfaction expressed till it was plain how the vote was, & indeed the disparity left no room for doubting, for one of the gentlemen had 114, the other but 81 votes. When the Poll was demanded, the Moderator had recourse to the Law, which gives it. Upon which every person present had free liberty of reasoning & constructing as he tho't fit, & after much reasoning and consultation upon it, the Moderator declared his opinion, That he apprehended the Demandants had no right to a Poll upon the Law & Circumstances of the case & therefore denied, for which he gave his reasons with the denial. This is a brief but true State of the case as we apprehend; and whether this or that made by the Petitioners is Right, will best be discovered upon the evidence.

We come now to the prayer of the Petition, & say it ought not to be granted for the following reasons: First—Because it has neither Law nor Reason to support it; and therefore in the next place, the granting of it would be an infringement upon the legal Rights of the voters & deprive them of their just Liberties & Privileges; And Lastly, It would be an act of Injustice—all which may be easily evinced to the satisfaction of every unprejudiced Judgment.

To the first of these—that the prayer of this petition has neither Law nor Reason to support it:—This is a direct negation of what the Petitioners say, and may be made out very clearly as we conceive by considering of the only Law they can be supposed to refer to, which is an Act entitled, "*An Act for the better regulating Town & Proprietary meet-*

ings, of the Province Laws": By which this controversy ought to be determined; and if this Law is not with the Petitioners, they have none of their Side in this case. In order to know this, every reasonable man will think it necessary to find out the true Intent & meaning of this act; for it is a maxim, — an indisputable Rule — in such cases, *That the meaning & intention of the Law, is the Law itself;* and to find out that it is a certain & undisputable rule among those whose business lays this way & who are thoroughly versed in the Interpretation of Acts & Laws, That the Preamble of an Act is always first to be consulted; as it is declarative of the reasons of making of it, & the mischief designed to be remedyed or prevented by it, & therefore is compared to a Lanthorn hanging in an Entry of an House by which we discover the rightway in. Now the Preamble of this Act says, *By reason of the Disorderly carriage of some persons in such meetings the Business thereof is much retarded & obstructed:* for preventing whereof it is enacted that a moderator shall be chosen to govern & regulate the Business of the meeting; and, *when it shall happen that any matters remain doubtfull after a vote, the Moderator is directed to Decide it by the Poll, if seven or more desire it:* This is all that relates to this affair in the whole Act. Now this being the first paragraph in the Act it must in reason be supposed the Preamble contains a special reference to the things mentioned in this Paragraph; for to suppose a preamble to an Act which has no refference to any thing thereby enacted, and to suppose it has none to the first & principal paragraph, is equally absurd: And therefore we can't but think that by the disorderly carriage mentioned in the Preamble was intended such as rendered the vote when passed Doubtfull & uncertain, for the removing of which a Poll might be had;—and if this be just reasoning, the consequence is, When there is no disorderly carriage or none detected, no disturbance or interruption given to the affairs of the meeting; when there is no apparent cause of doubt nor Rational cause of suspicion, no Poll was to be granted. But to come to the enacting clause: To find out any meaning we ought always to consider the mark he aims at, the main point he has in view. This is also given As a Rule to find out the mind of the Legislature & to apply it in the case before us:—What was the point the Legislators had in view in forming this clause? It is plain if we take their words in the same sense which other people use them, it was to take away all cause of Doubt how a vote was carried; & the restraining Disorders was with a special view to that, as they give Occasion of Doubting; for the words are, & *when it shall happen that any Matters remain Doubtful after*

a vote, then a Poll is to be had &c. The words are express in case of Doubt: Do they mean also that there shall be a Poll where there is no doubt? when the thing is already as plain as it can be by polling: Surely this Law did not design every thing should be Determined by the Poll, if that had been intended it would have said so. But as the Petitioners would have it, it must be in all cases if required, for the thing is always either plain or doubtfull; the Legislators mention & limit the Remedy to a particular case only: But this way of interpreting supposes they intended something directly contrary to the import of their expressions, and the design they had in view, that is, to comprehend all cases. By such a method any law may be made to mean any thing its interpreters would have it mean;—and the consequence of construing this Act in this manner, is to make Polling necessary in all cases at every Town or Parish meeting, where there are seven persons against the vote, which is an inconveniency which the Petitioners are not well aware of, & is greater than any man would readily imagine:—for by the juggle & contrivance which designing & disaffected persons might then practice, this very scheme for making things certain would be a means of destroying itself, embarrassing all such affairs & introduce occasions of perpetual jangle & controversy. But we take the truth of the case here really to be this: This law was designed to reduce the usual method of voting by lifting up the hand, to a more certain method of decision when there should be occasion, viz. by Polling & was never designed to be used where the voting is by Ballot or writing, which is a Modern way not used among us when this law was made & is much more certain than polling; and to correct that by this would be like correcting a man's countenance by his picture, or to make an original peice more certain by a copy,—that is, in plain English, to amend the better by the worse.

We humbly conceive it will not be said, or if said will not be regarded, that this law was intended to satisfy everybody's doubts who should pretend to them, tho' they could shew no Rational grounds for them, or because they may suggest a possibility of deception without pointing out any thing in particular; these are such wild and loose objections as deserve no reply; for by the same way any thing may be made doubtfull, & to argue from possibility to reality, deserves no attention;—those who do it claim pity, but no answer. As to the reason of the thing or the nature of such affairs, we can't think reason would ever have directed to the tryal of voting by writing, by Polling the voters. We have the more reason to think so because we don't find that among other people no less reasonable than ourselves when they determine matters by written

votes, they have not lit upon this happy method of polling to try the other by in case of dispute; At this day the Jurys attending the Courts in Westminster Hall are elected by Ballot, but no Polling in case of Dispute. If they cant tell what is done, the way is to do it over again until they can; so in choosing of Parliament Men, the regulation of corporation affairs, &c. which is done by Voting but no Polling: & to come nearer home in the neighbouring Goverm^{t} Jurys, Registers, Representatives, &c. are chosen by ballot, but there is nothing of the way we are speaking of in doubtfull cases. Now if Reason or the nature of the thing directed to this way, it is strange that other peoples Reason had not lead them into it; but as we don't find it has, we conclude it is not a dictate of Reason but an instituted method introduced & subsisted by the Provincial Law. Reason would have directed to several methods more certain than Polling, as writing down the voters names, setting their names to their votes &c. And if this be so, & that Law does not reach the case of the meeting now under consideration, then it necessarily follows, that to grant this Petition would be an infringement upon the Legal Rights of the voters & deprive them of their just Libertys and priviledges in this affair. This is so plain & so necessarily follows, that little need be said to it; for if the Law don't teach nor Reason oblige to it, then to vacate what the people have legally done is an infringement upon those Rights by which it was done, to deny them of the man that was chosen to represent them is depriving them of their Liberty in that respect, which is to choose for themselves, & taking away a valuable privilege of keeping the man they have once chosen; & hence it follows that it would be an Act of Injustice; these things which would be thus broke in upon & taken from the people, are of more consequence really to them than a part of their substance. It has cost Englishmen dear every body knows to purchase & maintain these & such like privilidges, & therefore to deny the free exercise of them, which is a Denial in effect, is the highest Injustice. It is no answer to say the people have a new choice; for besides the loss of time spent in this case, when a new choice is made may not that be set aside in the same manner & so on till they choose, not according to their own inclination, but the man they might be directed to. This would be like sending out a Jury till they find such a verdict as the court likes. Upon the whole we humbly conceive, to grant the prayer of this Petition signed by twelve persons only out of eighty-one, & one of those not an inhabitant of the town, to set aside an Election honestly, fairly & Legally made, upon such grounds, because a motion was denyed that was made out of season, after those who made it saw the affair was determined

contrary to their desire and which was made not from any cause of doubt but only dissatisfaction, & which they would never have made, had every thing but done just as it was, only the vote been as they would have had it; Nay, but would rather have cryed out upon it as unjust, illegal & absurd, should such a motion have been made; We say to make void this election under all these circumstances, we apprehend would have a very extraordinary effect & is what the wisdom & justice of this Honble House will not suffer us to fear.*

SAM^l HART
NATH^l MENDUM } Selectmen
MARK LANGDON

Portsm^o Decr 31, 1745:

Deed from Theodore Atkinson and Others of their Rights in certain Townships &c.

TO ALL PEOPLE, to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

Know ye, That we, Theodore Atkinson, Richard Wibird, John Moffat, Mark Hunking Wentworth, Samuel Moore, Jotham Odiorne jun., Joshua Pierce, Nathaniel Meserve, George Jeffry, Jun., and John Wentworth, jun., all of Portsm^o in ye Province of New Hampshire in New England, & Thomas Wallingford of Somersworth & Thomas Packer of Greenland, both of s^d Province aforesaid, Diverse good causes & considerations us hereunto moveing, have remised, Released & Quit claimed & by these Presents for ourselves each and every of us & all & each & every of our heirs, Executors & Administrators Respectively, Do Remise, Release & forever Quit claim unto ye Inhabitants & proprietors of ye severrall Towns, Precincts, Parishes, Villages & Districts hereafter named, lying & being within ye Province aforesaid, viz. Portsmouth, Dover, Exeter, Hampton, Gosport, Kingstown, *Derry*, Chester, Nottingham, Barrington, Rochester, Canterbury, Bow, Chicester, Epsom, Barnstead, with all & every of ye Districts, Parishes, Precints & villages within ye s^d Tounships, any & every of them, & to their successors, Heirs & Assigns forever Respectively in their seisin and Possession now being as the s^d Townships, Parishes, Districts, Precincts & Villages are limited, bounded & described by ye Acts, orders, customs & usages of ye s^d Province, with all & singular ye Estate, right, title, Inheritance, claim & demand of us & each & every of us of in & unto ye same & every part thereof to us in any manner belonging, Either to Houses, Lands, Rivers, woods, mines, minerals & appurtenances Whatsoever, Excepting & Reserving to ourselves & such of us & each of us our Respective Heirs & assigns, all & each of our several & Respective rights, Titles, Inheritance & Possession which we heretofore had in common or in severalty as Inhabitants or proprietors of houses & Lands within any of the Towns, Precincts, Parishes, Districts & Villages afore s^d in the same manner as tho' the above Release had never been made: *To have & To hold*, the above Remised & Released Premises with all ye Privilidges & appurtenances to ye same in any manner belonging, to them, ye said Inhabitants & proprietors, their several & respective successors, Heirs & assigns for ever, according to their sev-

* See Proceedings of the House on this case in Prov. Pap. Vol. V. pp. 394, 395, 402, 409. ED.

eral & respective Tenures, Grants, Priviledges & possessions, excepting as before excepted.

In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands & seals ye Thirty first day of July, Anno Domini, 1746, in ye twentieth year of ye reign of King George ye Second' &c.

Sign'd, Seal'd and delivered, after the words (of us & each & every of us) were interlin'd.

In Presence of us, executed by all except Tho' Packer Esq. before
Joshua Gilman
Noah Emery.

Sign'd, Seal'd and deliver'd by Thomas Packer, Esqr in presence of
Richard Hart
Noah Emery.

Theo' Atkinson	(S)	Josh^a^ Peirce	(S)
R. Wibird	(S)	Nathl Meserve	(S)
John Moffat	(S)	Geo. Jeffrey, Jun.	(S)
Mark H'g Wentworth	(S)	John Wentworth, jun	(S)
Sam' Moore	(S)	Thomas Wallingford	(S)
J. Odiorne, Jun.	(S)	Thos Packer,	(S)

Prov. of New Hampr } Portsm^o^ July 31st 1746. Then Theodore Atkinson, Richard Wibird, John Moffatt, Mark Hunking Wentworth, Jotham Odiorne jun., Joshua Peirce, Nathl Meserve, Geo. Jaffrey, Jun. John Wentworth, Jun. & Thomas Wallingford, above named acknowledged the foregoing Instrument to be their free act & Deed before me

Pierse Long, Just. Peace

Prov. of New Hamp^r^

Portsm^o^ August 23, 1746. Then personally appeared Saml Moore & Thos. Packer Esq^rs^ & acknowledged the above Instrument to be their free Act & Deed.

Before Pierse Long, Jus. Peace

Prov. of New Hamp^r^

A true Copy from Lib. 31, Fol. 175, Exam'd this 30th June 1756.
D. Peirce, Rec^od^

Petition of Portsmouth Selectmen about a Pest-house.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt. General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^bl^ his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, in General Assembly convened the 23^d^ day of Feby. 1747.

The Humble Petition of the Selectmen of Portsmouth in said Province for the current year, *shews:*

That your Petitioners in the summer past have had the Building of a Public Pest House under consideration and had fixed upon a certain Island near the Pool commonly called Anthony's Island as the most convenient place near to which Vessels might conveniently perform Quarantine, & Persons sick with any infectious Distemper might be safely kept both with respect to themselves & others.

That the property of the said Island could not be purchased but at more than double the real value, as your Petition[rs] conceive, advantage being taken of the supposed necessity of the case, whereby the grant of the sum made by the General Assembly would have been expended (or near it) only for the land: That the necessity of such an house grows greater every year, & the charge of purchasing a proper place & building suitable places for the reception of the sick & those whom it may be necessary to remove, will be considerably more than it appear'd to be when the said grant was made; and as such places are for the Benefit of the whole Province, Your Petitioners pray that a further grant may be made for that purpose; That (as the owners of the Land which may be fixed upon, will probably raise their demands upon the occasion) three or more indifferent suitable persons may be appointed to value and appraise the said Island, or other place that may be chosen, under Oath, & to make Return to some Magistrate or Judicatory, who shall administer Oath, & that the owner or owners thereof may be obliged to take the sum so stated, and the appraisors ordered to make Return describing the Place so appraised & that being recorded in the Province Records with the Oaths of the appraisers, may vest the fee of the Land so appraised & described in the Province, & Divest the owners thereof, (without the formality of Executing a Deed or Deeds, which may be attended with difficulty;) and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

SAM[l] HART
NATH[l] MENDUM } Selectmen
MARK LANGDON

In Council, March the 8th 1747.

Read & voted, That a Committee of both Houses be Imediately appointed to take under consideration the subjects matter of the within petition & report thereon as soon as may be.

Theodore Atkinson, Secy.

Ordered to be sent down for concurrence.

Answer to a Petition of Clement March for annexing certain lands to Greenland.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Capt. General, Govern[r] & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon[bi e] his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, May 10th 1748.

The Answer of the Town of Portsmouth to the Petition of Clement March of Greenland in said Province, Esq[r] praying

to have certain Lands purchased by him, lying in said Portsmouth, annexed to Greenland aforesaid:

First, There is no reason for diminishing the Rateable Estate of said Town & lessening the Extent thereof, to enlarge the Parish of Greenland, but quite contrary, for the Annual charges of said Town for Schools, Poor &c. is more than Double in proportion to the Polls & Estates, than the annual charge of Greenland.

2ly. The Reason given by the Petitioners for Annexing the Lands mentioned, to Greenland, is, that they lye contiguous to his other Lands which are in Greenland, & so most convenient for him to have it so; But why most convenient? There is no Reason but only the Rates in Greenland are not so high as in Portsmouth, for as to any other advantage it is not conceivable: the situation of the Land & all other circumstances will be just the same, whether they belong to Greenland or Portsmouth, excepting the article of Rates; and if that is the motive to ask this favour, that alone shows it ought not to be granted; because it shows that Portsm° has greater charges in proportion than Greenland, & therefore more need of Rateable Estate. Besides, what is there in the Petitioner's case that is peculiar, & will not be every man's case who shall ever purchase Lands in the Town if he lives near or upon the line in another Town or Parish all around; or indeed, which will not happen in any other Town thro' the Province. For, may not every purchaser under like circumstances, ask the same favour to have his lands annexed that place which pays the lowest Taxes; and where will this end? There is one Dearborn who owns Lands in Greenland, Stratham & Hampton, which lye contiguous, as the Petitioner's does: May not he with equal Reason come & pray that all his lands may be annexed to that place he likes best, & will there not be the same conveniency to him as in the case of the present Petitioner? and so of many others. It is a rule to be observed with respect to Petitioners, that when any thing is asked which makes way for every person, or an indefinite Number to ask the like,—when the thing ask'd is a mere matter of favour, and no principle of justice or equity to enforce it,—There, in such cases it ought not to be granted. The present Petition is rather against Justice & Equity; it amounts really to no more than this: that the Petitioner may hereafter be exempted from paying half or some part of the Taxes which the Law imposes on him; and there are many others ready to ask the like favour; and then some others must pay the more: and can it be said to be just and right to grant a favour to one to the prejudice & Injury of another? Wherefore as the Town of Portsmouth is a Sea Port continually exposed to strangers & many extraordi-

nary charges, the extent ought by no means to be lessened; and as several others are in like case of the petitioner who will in all probability follow his example in case he succeeds, whereby the charges of said Town will fall so much the heavier on those who remain, 'tis humbly hoped you will see cause to deny the prayer of this Petition.

SAM[l] HART, } in behalf of the Selectmen.

WM. PARKER } agent for s[d] Town.

Petition for a Lottery to pave the streets in Portsmouth.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor and Commander-in-chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon[ble] his Majesty's Councill & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly conven'd, the 16th day of Octob[r] 1759.

The Humble Petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of Portsmouth in said Province *Shews*:—

That your Petitioners apprehend it to be very necessary that the principal Streets in said Town (which are now much us'd & are narrow) shou'd be Pav'd, especially where the Public Business occasions the greatest concourse of People: That this wou'd be a work of very considerable expence, and considering the annual charges of the town for support of the Poor (which by the situation it is often oblig'd to receive) more than any other Town in the Province, with other incidental charges, the Inhabitants cou'd not well sustain a Tax for this purpose at Present;—

That works of this & the like nature are annually carried into execution in other Places by Public Lotteries, and much money from this as well as other places in the Province is by the adventures of Particular persons carried away & made contributory to the Designs of those Lotteries;

Your Petitioners therefore think it may be prudent to take advantage of this disposition of the People & Direct it to some Public use & General service among ourselves.

Wherefore, they Humbly Pray that they may have leave to set up a Public Lottery to raise a sum of money for paving the Streets aforesaid, to be under the Regulation & management of Persons to be stated & appointed in a Bill for that end, and that they may have leave to bring it in accordingly; and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

H. Wentworth — John Moffat

D. Peirce — John Sherburne

John Newmarch
Daniel Rogers
Charles Treadwell
Jacob Treadwell
John Penhallow
Saml Penhallow
Saml Sherburne
Clemt Jackson
Saml Wentworth
John Griffeth
Richard Champney
John Gardner
John Grant
John Beck
George Boyd
Danl Jackson
Sam Griffeth
Nathl Mendum
W. Clagett
James Stoodley
Benjamin Welch
Tho: Wibird
Joshua Brackett
Joseph Allcock
William Pearson
Henry Rust
Charles Banfill
Solomon Loud
Gregory Pursell
Geo: Jaffrey
Will. Temple
Jno. Nelson
Danl Fowle
Nathl Treadwell, jun.
Jotham Rindge
S. Livermore
Nathl Adams
Nathl Peirce
John Wentworth
Damaris Wheelwright
Jonathan Warner
George Libbe
Danl Rindge
George Meserve
Saml Hart
Benja Mackay
Thomas Parker
Saml Frost
Jno. Parker
Joseph Buss
John Cutt
Humpy Furnell
Thos Hart
Charles Hight
Hy Apthorp
Peter Man
Thos Landell
John Hart
Saml Cutt
E. Russell, jr
James Dwyer
John Wendell
Theo. Atkinson, jun
John Ley
William Parker, &c. &c. &c
Thos Packer
Matthew Livermore

In Council Octo^{r} 30th 1759.
Read & Concurr'd & sent down to the Hon^{bl} Assembly.
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^{y}

Province of } In the House of Representatives, Octr 31, 1759.
New Hamp^{r} } This Petition being read,
Voted, That the Prayer thereof be granted & that the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.
A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council, Eod. die, read & concurr'd
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^{y}.

Petition of Portsmouth against a Bridge at New Castle.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, in General Assembly convened, the 15th Day of Feby 1760.

The humble Petition of the Selectmen & agents of the Town of Portsmouth, *shews*:—

That your Petitioners have been informed that there is now lying before the Assembly a Bill for granting liberty to the Town of New Castle to set up a Lottery to raise money for building a Bridge a cross that Branch of Piscataqua River call'd Little Harbour, which your Petitioners apprehend if it should be effected will greatly Prejudice the said Town of Portsmouth, especially if done in the manner we are inform'd is design'd & begun; and as your Petitioners have been so lately inform'd of the said Bill they have not time to Reduce the Objections to be made to writing, and especially as there was no Public notice nor Liberty given for that purpose, they could not be prepared therewith, they humbly pray that they may in behalf of said Town be heard, to shew cause why the said Bridge shou'd not be built, especially in the unlimited manner proposed;—and they shall as in duty bound Pray &c.

SAM[l] PENHALLOW
A. CLARKSON
WILLIAM KNIGHT
JOHN SHERBURNE
JOHN GRIFFETH.

Memorial for a bounty on fish, wheat, hemp, &c.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq[r] Governor and commander-in-chief, in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon[ble] his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, June 6th 1763.

The MEMORIAL of Sundry Inhabitants of Portsmouth and other places in said Province *shews*:—

That as the Business of taking, curing & carrying on the Fishery in this Province wou'd be of great advantage to the Province in general, and especially to the landed Interest, perhaps nothing cou'd sooner & more sensibly encourage & Promote that Business than the favour and regard of the Government, not only countenancing but granting a bounty on the same, in such manner & proportion as in their wisdom shall be judged convenient; for as that Business has been in a great measure neglected for some time & preparing for it is attended with considerable expence, & the issue & event not certain, most People who heretofore were ingaged in it, will be backward to resume it on the bare prospect of the advantage arising by it:

That it has been done in many instances by the wisdom of the British Parliament not only for introducing a new Branch

of Trade, or a new kind of Manufacture, but also for reviving & giving spirit to any thing of that Nature useful to the Public not wholly disus'd but much decay'd, as in particular on the Whale Fishery an additional Bounty of twenty shillings a Ton on the admeasurement of the ship, by Stat. 22 Geo. 2, was granted to the owners of the ships, on a preceding bounty of twenty shillings, before granted by the Stat. of 5 & 6 Geo. 2, &c. And many other instances might easily be given; For it is now become a maxim from long experience, that the Generality of the world must be counted to pursue their own Interest; And it is a well known Fact, how greatly the State of Ireland has been raised & improved within thirty years last past, by giving bountys & premiums to those who excelled in every kind of manufacture in use there,—which raised a spirit of emulation, in that way bro't arts & industry into credit & reputation & promoted the trade & wealth of the kingdom. The reason is so clear & strong in such cases that even in the New Province & settlement of Nova Scotia, the Government there has granted a Bounty of twelve pence sterling per Quintal on all Cod fish cured there; and in every Government encouragements in this way have not been wanting; That there is perhaps more necessity for such an encouragement in this Province, than in any other place that can be named, to raise something to ballance the large Importation annually made for some of the necessaries of life;—it appearing by the Custom House Book, that between March 1761 & June 1763, 180,865 Bushels of corn had been duly Entered imported here, besides adventures & small quantities not observed, by Coasters, &c. Add to this, the prodigious quantities of flower & great quantities of other provisions, by which means all the silver & gold which used to be current here is gone, or at least the greatest part, and the Bills of credit now current Depreciated as they wou'd not purchase our daily Bread, for it is certain the more limited any currency is & the fewer demands it will answer, the more the value will sink.

That a sufficient sum for the purpose aforesaid might be easily raised by an Excise on Spirituous Liquors, more especially on that enormous Quantity of rum imported, which by the entries aforesaid, it appears that more than three thousand eight hundred & twenty hogs heads have been in little more than two years, besides smaller parcels, tho't too inconsiderable to be entered, private adventures,—and many hogsheads annually of New England rum, carried up Merrimack & consumed in this Province; and it is well known to every one, that almost all the Profit of this trade is made by the Importation and consumption here; and how prejudicial to the substance, morals and health of the People such a large

consumption of spirit is, no one can readily conceive; and therefore it seems as necessary to prevent or lessen this growing mischief, as it was in time of war to Defend the people against the common Enemy, by whom perhaps fewer lives were annually destroyed;

That wheat, Hemp, Flax & other kinds of the Produce of the Field, wou'd doubtless be soon raised and bro't to such a degree of perfection, as would at least lessen our Importations & bring our Trade nearer to a ballance, if not turn it in our favour, if the Husbandman was suitably encouraged and some method taken to introduce a more profitable way of cultivation and Agriculture, than has yet been practised here, the Public wou'd soon find the advantage; And from the experience of others, we learn that nothing will prove more effectual to advance & promote such like improvements than Bounties and premiums given at first till those concerned find their account & encouragement from the Profit of the Business.

Wherefore your memorialists Pray you wou'd take the Premises under consideration and do therein as in your wisdom & goodness you shall upon the whole Judge will be best for the public advantage & emolument—and we shall ever pray, &c.

John Sherburne	A. R. Cutter
Will[m] Torrey	Tho[s] Parker
Wm. Parker	Tho[s] Parsons
D. Peirce	John Wentworth
Geo. Meserve	Tho[s] Wibird
Daniel Rogers	Nul Lamont
Benj[a] Odiorne	Jn[o] Parker
John Moffat	Mark Hunking
Thomas Packer, jun.	Ichabod Clark
J. Wentworth	Philip Hooker
Dan[l] Rindge	Samuel Moffat
Wm. Whipple	James McDonough
Thos. Martin	Tho[s] Tash
Hugh Hall Wentworth	Peter Pearse
Jonathan Warner	Jona. Lovewell
George Boyd	John Penhallow
Geo. Jaffrey	Nath[l] Adams
Wyseman Clagett	John Clark
Joss. Frost	Tim. Pope
Hubartus Neal	Paul March

In Council, June 8th 1763.
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon[ble] Assembly.
T. Atkinson, Secy.

Province of New Hamp[r] } June 10th 1763.

The Committee appointed to consider the subject matter of the foregoing Petition, beg leave to Report as follows, viz. That when the Excise Act Pass'd by this House and Now before the Council shall be pass'd by the Hon[ble] Council and Assented to by his Excellency We

think it adviseable that then a Bounty be given on fish, hemp, flax & wheat, to be paid out of the money Rais'd by s[d] Excise.

Meshech Weare, on behalf of the Com[tee]

This Report Entered June 15, 1763, & the House was prorogued the same day.

[NOTE. The MS. Papers which next follow, relate to an attempt to establish a PLAY HOUSE in Portsmouth, in June, 1762;—all which are printed in full, in Prov. Pap. Vol. VI. pp. 831–835, to which readers are referred. ED.]

Petition of the Selectmen, &c., of Portsmouth, to hold Town meetings in the State House.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq[r] Governor and commander in chief, in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, The Hon[bl] his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly convened, Decem[r] 15th 1763.

The humble Petition of the Select men of Portsmouth in said Province & the Wardens of the first Parish in said Town, *shews:*

That it has been the usual practice to hold the meetings of said Town in the meeting House in said Parish, which has been long complained of by many in the Parish, not only as injurious to the property of particular Persons, by breaking down the seats, dirting the Pews and benches, & carrying away cushions & other injuries, but as a very indecent thing to make an house appropriated & consecrated to the worship of God, the scene for public civil affairs, where the warmest Disputes & Contentions often happen; and woul'd be so estimated by serious Persons of any Religion whatsoever; But especially since a very Large & commodious addition at a great expence of the Parish, has been lately made, the article of Injury is more evident & more frequent; and as the number of parishioners increase the complaint of indecency and Impropriety increases; Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray, that leave may be granted by a Resolve, that the said meetings of the Town of Portsmouth for the Purpose aforesaid, may be held in the State House, from time to time, and any damage occasioned thereby shall be repaired or made good by the Town—and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

H. WENTWORTH
CHANLEE TREADWELL
Wardens.

JOHN LANGDON
JOHN DENNET
SAM[l] PENHALLOW
WILLIAM KNIGHT
Select-men.

Another Petition on the same matter.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Capt. General, Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's aforesaid Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^bl his Majesty's Council for said Province, & Hon^bl House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, April 11th 1764.

The humble Petition of the Select men of Portsmouth in the Province aforesaid, whose Names are hereunto subscribed, *Sheweth*—

That the annual and other Town meetings for the said Town of Portsmouth have (for many years last past) been held in the North Meeting house there, which hath given offence to many of the Parishioners, who by means thereof have had their Pews dirtied and spoiled and who are also of opinion that the said Meeting house ought to be wholly set apart for the worship of Almighty God; and this hath lately produced no small contention:

That with a view to quiet the said contention and prevent any future offence, It was at the last annual meeting for the said Town, *Voted*, as follows, viz.

"That the Selectmen be desired to Petition the General "Court at their next session for leave to hold their Town "meetings in the State House, And if the Prayer of their "Petition be granted, that the said selectmen be and are here-"by desired, to appoint their next Town meeting (the next "annual meeting included) to be held in said State House; "And if they cannot obtain leave of the general Court as "aforesaid, Then to meet at the North meeting House as "usual."

Which vote occasions this application to your Excellency and Honours; And your Petitioners to Pray that for the reasons aforesaid, the Selectmen of the said Town of Portsmouth for the time being may have leave, and be legally authorized by the General Court to hold their future Town meetings in the State House.

John Langdon
A. Clarkson
John Dennet
Saml Penhallow
William Knight.

Province of New Hamp^r } In the House of Representatives, May 8th 1764. This Petition being read

Voted, That the prayer of the within Petition be granted in the following manner; Viz. That the Town of Portsmouth have liberty of

holding their Town meetings for the future, in the lower room of the State House, provided the Town at their own Expense will finish in a decent and hansome manner the Room upon the lower floor of the State house finding all the materials for plastering, ceiling and whatever is necessary that the same may be finished in a workmanlike manner, and cause the same to be so finished in a Reasonable time.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

Portsmouth Petition in regard to certain election returns.

Province of New Hampshire } To the Honourable House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly conven'd;—May 4th 1775.

The humble petition of the subscribers, freeholders in Portsmouth, in sd Province, *Sheweth* :—

That before the last election of Representatives for this Province, Writs issued to several new Towns in said Province, which had not heretofore sent Representatives, to choose persons to represent them in General Assembly;—in consequence of which Writs, these towns did elect Representatives; And as there is no Legal Authority vested in any seperate Branch or Branches of the Legislature of this government to issue such writs, we apprehend the exercise of such authority, therefore, not only unwarranted by the British Constitution & the Laws of this Province, but in its consequences subversive of both, and pregnant with many alarming evils (1).

Wherefore we being deeply sensible of the great importance of preventing so unconstitutional a procedure, most humbly pray that the honourable House may take into their wise and immediate consideration, whether the persons so chosen, are entitled to a seat there.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

H. Wentworth	Caleb Currier
Danl. Peirce	Nah. Ward
John Newmarch	Richd Salter
Thos Hart	Edmund Coffin
David Griffith	John Marshall
George Gains	James Clarkson
George Hart	William Furnell
Elisha Hill	Saml Dalling
Mark Seavey	Saml Hale, jun
Jeremiah Libbey	Jno Furnald
Wm. Langdon	Wm. Whipple
Benjamin Slade	Willm Pearny
Temple Knight	J. Brackett
Benja Akerman	H. Sherburne
Saml Beck	John Grant

(1) See "Journals of the House," on the foregoing, in Prov. Pap. Vol. VII. pp. 373, 378, 383-385. Ed.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Jos. Allcock
William Cotton
Peter Man
Mark Nelson
Benja Mackay
Jacob Sheafe, jun
Saml Bowles
David Call
John Gregory
Thos Prince
Saml Jackson
John Peirce
Alexr Monson
Giles Seaward
E. Butler

John Furbur
Benj. Patridge
Reuben Snell
Ephm Ham
Geo. Turnar
Peirse Long
Joseph Bass
James Grouard
Robert Ham
Joseph Akerman
Saml Moses
Theodore Moses
Noah Peirce
Nathaniel T. Griffith

POWNALL, IN VERMONT.

Petition.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benjamin Wintworth, Capt. Generall and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampsher in Newengland, and to the Hon^bl his majesties Council in the Same.

The Humbell petition of the Inhabitants of the township of POWNALL, *sheweth:* That we your petitioners mete the sacond tusday of Jenerwarey Instant, In order to hold our An^n Meting, to chues town officers and to do as derected by Chartor; But Esqr Samwell Robinson's reading our Charter at the opening of s^d meting, he being Moderattor, we found we had maid A mistake throo Ignorance off the day; therfore Durst not proceed to do the business of the day; so your humble petitioners pray, that this fault may be forgiven, and that for this present year your Excellency & Honours would be graciously plesed to appoint us the fortenth in febu^r or such a day as in your grate Wisdom and Goodness you shall see best, promising for the time to com to fully observe and walke by your Charter orders; And your petitioners shall as in duty bound ever pray. Deated pownell the 18th Jene^y A. D. 1763.

Witness,

Isaac Vanarenem
John Vanarenem
Jabuz Worran
Robert Watson
Asa Alger

Silas Pratt
Noah Pratt
James Grover
Elieser Mash
Thomas Train.

Province of New Hampshire, Jan^{r}y. 3^{d} 1763.

The within Petition read & considered, & the Prayer thereof granted & ordered that the second Tuesday in March be appointed the time for the Annual Town Meeting for the within mentioned town of Pownal for the choice of Town officers &c. agreeable to the Laws of this Province, and that the Charter for said Town & the record thereof be accordingly altered.

Read & concurred

T. Atkinson, Jun. Secy

NOTE.—There is an evident discrepancy in the above dates. ED.

PUTNEY, IN VERMONT.

Petition for a Grant of Land.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Capt. General and Governor in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire &c. And to the Honorable his Majesties Council of s^{d} Province:

The Petition of Josiah Willard and others humbly sheweth; That your Excellency's Petitioners are desirous of having his Majesties Grant of a Township of Land of ye contents of six miles square on ye westerly side of Connecticut River, at a place called ye Greate Meadow adjoining to ye Township of Westminster at ye Northerly End of the Land called ye Equivalent Land in the Province of New Hampshire, as your Excellency's Petitioners shall in duty bound ever pray.

JOSIAH WILLARD.

Josiah Willard	Thomas Hill
Moses Wright, jun.	Henry Hill
John Armes	James Hews
Nathan Willard	James Hews, jun.
Lois Butler	Francis Bowls
John Peirce	Isaac Bowls
Joseph Ashley	John Bowls
John Moor	James Tilston
Wilder Willard	John Newel
Oliver Willard	Samuel Sparhawk
Thomas Whiting	Samuel Sparhawk, jun.
Daniel Adams	Jeremiah Hall
Joseph Baker	Samuel Hall
Timothy Baker	William Smeed
Isaac White	Prenctice Willard
John White	Joseph Ashley (1)
Benja White	Thomas Chamberlain (1)
James Clemmens	Thomas Prentice

(1) These two names have a X before them ED.

James Alen, jun
Jonathan Hammond
Elnathan Blood
Amasa Parker
Ephraim Adams
Isaac Powers
Robert Fletcher
Jonathan Hubbard
Josiah Willard, jr.
Robert Usher
John Usher
Jonathan Cummings
Thomas Parker
Elias Alexander
Richard Wibird
Theodore Atkinson.

RAYMOND.

[Raymond, formerly belonging to the town of Chester, was incorporated as a Parish, 9 May, 1764. Ed.]

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Tertii Magnæ Brittaniæ, Franciæ & Hiberniæ Quarto.

An Act for Erecting a New Parish within the Township of Chester in this Province:

Whereas at a Town meeting held at Chester on the twenty-Sixth day of January 1763, it was granted & Voted that a part of said Township commonly call'd Free Town described in said Vote, might be incorporated into a new Parish (as far as their consent was necessary) and it appearing to be convenient considering the situation of the Inhabitants;

Be it therefore Enacted, by the Governor Council and Assembly, That there be and hereby is a new Parish constituted, Erected and Incorporated there, by the following Bounds namely, Beginning at the North East corner of Chester upon the head line of Epping at a maple tree being a boundary between Chester and Nottingham, then runs south twenty nine degrees West, bounding partly on said Epping & partly on Brentwood, to the South East corner of the Lot Number'd thirty in said Chester, as may appeare by Records of the Proprietors of Chester, then West North West so far as to contain all the old Hundred Acre Lots so called in said Township, then North twenty Nine Degrees East to the South East corner of Candia, then by & joining upon Candia to the Line of Nottingham upon that side & by that Line to the Maple Tree where it begins; and that the same Parish be called, Incorporated & Named the Parish of Raymond; And all the Polls and Estates within the limits aforesaid are hereby exonerated and Discharged of & from all Duties, Taxes & Assessments (excepting what is hereafter mentioned & excepted) in & to any other place or part of said Town and are hereby Invested & Enfranchised with all common Privileges which other Parishes have & legally hold, & likewise with all the Legal powers & authorities of other Parishes in this Province, and may raise money for the necessary uses of the said Parish as any Town or Parish may Legally do, To have succession and continuance forever: And Samuel Emerson Esqr of Chester, is hereby authorised to call the first meeting of said Inhabitants for the choice of the necessary Parish Officers and any other affairs they may judge proper at said meeting, giving due notice

of the time, place & Design of such meeting, in the usual & customary manner in said Town.

Provided, & Excepting, that the Polls & Estates of & within said Parish shall continue to be taxed & assessed to the Province Rates as they have usually been until a new Proportion of said Rates shall be made among the several Towns & Parishes in this Province.

Province of New Hamp^{r} } In the House of Representatives, May 4^{rh} 1764

This Bill having been read three times, Voted, that it pass to be Enacted

H. Sherburne, Speaker.

In Council, May 9th 1764.

This Bill read a third tim & Past to be enacted.

Theo. Atkinson jun. Secy.

Consented to B. WENTWORTH.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Captain Generall, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, to the Honourable his Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly convened:

The Humble Petition of the Subscribers, freeholders and Inhabitants of the Parish of Raymond in said Province, *Sheweth:*

That the Said Parish was Incorporated in May A. D. 1764, and have ever since been Destitute of a Meeting-house for the Publick Worship of God in said Parish;

That the Parishioners cannot agree where to set a Meeting-house, altho they have had sundry meetings for that purpose; but the Major part of the Inhabitants Living in the North Easterly part of said Parish, have Voted to set the Meeting house about a mile from the North Easterly side line of said Parish, which will greatly discommode many of the Inhabitants of the upper part of said Parish, which is likely in a short time to be the best part of s^{d} Parish.

That your Petitioners humbly conceive that if the meeting-house was to be placed as near the Center of the Parish as possible, It would Accommodate all the Inhabitants that now are or hereafter may be settled there. And as some of your Petitioners live almost five miles from the place proposed & Voted to set the said House, which is to your Petitioners a great grievance, & if so done will be to them a heavy burthen; your Petitioners therefore humbly pray the Interposition of your Excellency & hon^{rs} in this matter, and that a Disinterested Committee may be appointed to view the said Parish & Report where they shall think most proper for said House to Stand,

to accommodate the Inhabitants in the best manner, and that such report may be established, or that your Petitioners may be otherwise relieved in such way & manner as your Excellency & Hon^rs in your Wisdom shall see fit. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall Pray &c.

Raymond, Octo^r 1768.

Ezekiel Lane	John Leavitt
Daniel Lane	Gilman Dudley
Ezekiel Morss	William S. Healey
William Todd	Daniel Richardson
Samuel Healey	Christopher Richardson
David Lane	John Hains
Obadiah Griffen	Stephen Thirst^n
Daniel Clay	Samuel Brown ?
Jonathan Palmer	John Wells
James Row	Stephen Gale
Jonathan Palmer (jun)	James Bean
Joseph Giles	Benjamin Prescott
Jonas Clay	Nicholas Gilman
Ephraim Currier	Stephen Dudley
Alexander Smith	Joseph Smith
Joseph Giles, jun.	Samuel Cram
Clement Dollof	Alexander McCluere
John Leavitt, jun	John Sweat.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Octob^r 20th 1768.
New Hamp^r } Upon reading this Petition, voted, That the Petitioners serve the Selectmen of Raymond with a Copy of this Petition & order of Court thereon that they may be heard thereon, on Friday the 28th Instant, if the General Assembly be then sitting, and if not then on the third day of the sitting of the Assembly after the first day of November next.

Saml Hobart, Clk. Pro Temp.

In Council, Eodem Die.
Read & concurr'd.

Geo. King, Dep. Sec^y.

Province of } In the House of Representatives, Octo^r 28th, 1768.
New Hamp^r } The parties being heard on this Petition and agreeing on a Committee to be appointed,

Voted, That John Webster, Col^o Ebenezer Stevens, Esq^rs and Capt. Eliphalet Morrill be a Committee for the purpose mentioned in the Petition, to proceed therein and make Report to the General Assembly as soon as may be.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council, eodem die.
Read & concurred

Geo. King, Dep. Sec^y.

RINDGE.

[This Town was granted by Massachusetts in 1738, to John Tyler, Joseph Pike and others, officers and soldiers in the Canada expedition in 1690. It was called for many years *Rowley-Canada*, and sometimes Monadnock No. 1. It was incorporated by charter, August 11, 1768, John Wentworth being then Governor of the Province of New Hampshire. JOHN FARMER, Esq.]

Certificate.

Francis Peabody & Huberd Gould boath of Lawfull age testifyeth & saith, That in ye year 1742, we went to work at Rowley Canada & we kept our horses on Able Plats is hay in mado whare ye trespas is said to be done & paid him for ye same, & ye s^d^ Plats hath bin in possession of s^d^ meado ever since till he gave it to his son Joseph, ye defendant, who hath ben in possession ever since & as to ye upland whare ye trespass is s^d^ to be done we se Able Platts in ye year 1742 ye 29 & 30 days of September cut wood & Timber on the Lot whare ye trespas is said to be done & ye s^d^ Able Plats hath ben in possession ever sence till he gave it to his Sun Joseph Plats the defendant & he hath ben in possession to this day.

Francis Peabody
Hubbard Gould.

Essex SS. January ye twenty seventh day 1752 Then the within named Francis Peabody and Hubard Gould both being strictly *casuned* to the truth of what is above written and then made oath to the same, —the adverse partys not Notified living more than thirty miles Distance: before me the subscriber:

Att^r^ Thomas Lambert, Jus. of Pec.

Copy of the grant to Rowley-Canada, now Rindge, 1738.

At a Great & Genl Court or Assembly for his Majesties Province of the Mass^a^ Bay in New England begun & held at Boston upon Wednesday the 31st day of May 1738 & continue^d^ by prorogation to Wednesday the 29th day of Novr following & then met: January 23^d^ a plot or Tract of Land of ye Contents of six miles square laid out by Nathan Haywood Surveyor & chainman on oath to satisfy a grant made by this Court to John Tyler, Joseph Pike & others officers & soldiers in ye Canada Expedition in the year 1690, Lying to the Southward of the mountain called the Grand Monadnock & adjoining to ye Township granted to Saml Haywood & others, Beginning at a maple Tree ye northeasterly corner of Dotchester-Canada Township, from thence Runing north 32 deg^r^ East two miles & one hundred poles to a heap of stones, Thence north 22 deg^rs^ East four miles, Thence North one mile till it meets with ye said Township granted to Samuel Haywood &c. Thence West four miles by ye s^d^ Township to the southwesterly corner thereof, Thence north by ye s^d^ Township three miles & two hundred & twenty poles, Thence west 30 deg^rs^ South five miles & one hundred & eighty poles to a wild cherry Tree on the Southward of ye Grand Monadnock afores^d^, Thence South one thousand & eighty poles, Thence East 41 deg^r^ South two thousand five hundred perch to a heap

of Stones, then North 12 deg^{r} East one mile to ye northeasterly corner of Dotchester-Canada Township, being ye maple first mentioned, with the allowance of one rod in Thirty for uneven Land & Swag of chain & a further allowance for ten large ponds & a large shrub Swamp about four miles in length & a mile in Bredth.

In Council Read & ordered that five thousand Acres only be allowed for Ponds & that the Committee be Directed to reform the plot upon the Spot accordingly at the charge of the Grantees, & Report to this Court at the next May session.

In the House of Representatives, Read and concur^{d}.

Consented to. J. BELCHER.

Copy examined, pr. Thos. Perley Pro. Clerk.

Taken from a copy attested by
J. Willard, Sec^{y}

Andover, April 3^{d}, 1750.

We ye Subscribers being appointed by a Committee chosen by ye Proprietors of Rowly-Canada Township to go in ye capacity of surveyors & run a line from three miles North of Black Rocks in Salisbury, sixty miles Due west, have so done & find that Sixty miles extends one mile & a half into s^{d} Canada Township.

Saml Johnson jun
Moody Bridges.

N. B. We have neither of us any interest in s^{d} Township.

ROCHESTER.

[Rochester was originally granted by Massachusetts to a number of Proprietors in 127 shares, and contained upwards of 60,000 acres of land. The town was incorporated 10 May, 1722. ED.]

Meeting of Proprietors.

At a Publick meeting of ye Proprietors of the Town of Rochester legally warned and holden at ye Meeting house in said Town of Rochester on ye tenth day of July 1732

Voted, That the Rev^{d} Mr. Joseph Adams (1) be ye Moderator of the present meeting.

Voted, That the Proprietors of the Town of Rochester with the Inhabitants of s^{d} Town support a Gospel Minister in said Town During ye term of seven years longer than was exprest in an Act of ye Genl Court Dated May ye 10th 1731, Beginning at ye Expiration of said Act and so continuing till ye seven years be expired, each one paying according to their Intrest.

Vera Copia, as on Rochester Town Book.

Attest, Paul Gerrish, Proprietors Cler.

(1) Rev. Joseph Adams was a native of Braintree, Mass.; born 1689; graduated from Harvard College, 1710; ordained as minister of Newington, N. H., Nov. 16, 1715; continued in the ministry there 68 years; and died 26th May, 1784, aged 95 years. ED.

Petition of Rochester, relating to the Gospel Ministry.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, in New England, and to the honourable his Majestyes Council with the honourable house of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd at Portsm^{o} in said Province:

The Petition of your humble Petitioners Inhabitants of the Township of Rochester in the Province afores^{d} humbly *sheweth:*—

That we, the Inhabitants of Rochester, being persuaded that the Gospel & Means of Grace is a rich & invaluable privilidge, for which reason we can't but much lament our sad State, while we live without s^{d} means; & seeing no Rational Prospect of obtaining them for some considerable time to come, without the help & assistance of the non-Resident Proprietors, especially considering our own poverty & the Difficultys in subduing a wilderness, and hopeing it may not be deem'd unreasonable to Desire some assistance from them, in order to our Injoying the Gospel among us, since 'tis too evident to need any proof that their temporal interest is greatly advanced by us; that is, by our settling in s^{d} Town; and withall, persuading ourselves that this honourable Court will Reconsider our State & now doe some what for our Relief;—We, whose names are underwritten doe once more humbly Request the Legislative Power to pass an Act whereby to oblige the Proprietors of said Rochester to assist us the Inhabitants in supporting the Gospel in said Town of Rochester for the space of six or seven years; till, 'tis likely we may be able to doe it of our selves; or for such a term or Time as this Honourable Court should think fit: As also that the honourable Court would appoint two or three persons for calling the Inhabitants of the Town together for this present year for the choice of Town officers &c. And your humble Petitioners shall ever pray as in Duty bound.

Benjamin Merrow
Saml Richard
Robbard Knite
Joseph Heard
Joseph Miller
John Jennes
Mark Jennes
John Bickford
Jonathan Yong
James Lock
Timothy Robberts
Joseph Richards
Clem^{t} Dearing
Ebenezer Place
Jonathan Cops
Stephen Berry
Joseph Richards
John Wentworth
William Chamberlin
William James
John Mac fiee ?
Zebulon Dam
John Bickford jun.
Samuel Marrow
Ebenezer Bruster
Benjamin Fosst
John Garlen
Elezar Ham

John Allen
Paul Tibbets
Solomon Clark
William Elis
Stephen Harford
Joseph Richards jun.
Benj[a] Tebbets
Philip Dorr ? jun.
William Stiles.

April 29, 1736, In the House of Representatives,

The within Petition was read, and considered of, and Voted, That every Proprietor of a full share of Lands in the town of Rochester, pay the Sum of fifteen shillings pr Annum to the Inhabitants of the said Town (or such person or persons as they shall appoint to receive the same), towards the support of a Gospel minister amongst them During the full term of seven years, and so in proportion to the sum of fifteen shillings pr annum according to their Propriety, be the same more or less, during the term aforesaid. Provided & the Petitioners are hereby obliged to keep an orthodox minister during said term, and that the Rev[d] Jos. Adams & John Jennes & Wm. Chamberlaine be impowered to call a Town meeting to choose town officers, as the Law directs, for the present year, and y[t] all such officers so chosen shall have full power & authority as other town Officers have by Law & that the Peti[rs] have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffrey, Cler. Ass[m]

In Coun[l] eo. die.
Read & Concur'd.
Rich[d] Waldron, Sec[y]
Assented to
J. Belcher.

[An Act was passed agreeably to the foregoing vote (1). Ed.]

(1) See copy of said Act in MS. "Town Papers," Vol. VI. p. 115. Ed.

Petition of William Chamberlin and John Jenness, for further relief.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Governor and Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon[bl e] his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Court convened.

The Humble Petition of William Chamber[s] [Chamberlin] and John Jenness both of Rochester in the Province of New Hampshire, as a Committee for the said Town, *shews:*

That the said Town of Rochester being an Infant settlem[t] the Inhabitants thereof Labour under many hardships & Inconveniences unknown to Places come to maturity and that are able to supply with all the necessaries of life.

That the General Court in consideration of the Indigent circumstances of the said Inhabitants past an Act some few years since subjecting the non-resident Proprietors to the payment of fifteen shillings upon every whole Right or share, and in proportion for a Lesser part towards the support of the Ministry

& other charges of the said Town;—which Act was temporary & expires in March or April next.

That the said Inhabitants have labored under the frowns of Providence in a peculiar manner for the two last years, by cutting short their crops of Indian Corn (their chief support) with early & unseasonable Frosts, which has greatly distrest them & made them more Indigent than when the Court granted them the aid above mentioned; especially too considering there is no Grist Mill in the said Town & that they suffer many other inconveniences too numerous to be here particularly mentioned:—Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of their constituents most humbly Pray this Honble Court to Revive the aforesaid Act for such time as shall seem meet or to grant them leave to bring in another, drafted in such manner as this Court shall think to be a proper support & succour to the said Inhabitants, or give them such other Relief as in your Great Wisdom & Goodness you shall think proper;—and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound (in their said capacity) shall ever pray, &c.

WILLIAM CHAMBERLIN
JOHN JENNES.

Feby 13th 1741

In the House of Representatives:

The within Petition read and the Petitioners heard and som of the Proprietors p'sent at the hearing:

Voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be thus far granted, viz. That the non-resident Proprietors shall pay ten shillings annually for one whole share & so in proportion to their interest in s^d Town, for & towards the support of the Ministry in said Town, and that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly: the Act to continue for three years & no longer.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m

Feby 18th 1741-2.

In Council Feby 19, 1741-2.

Read and non-concurred unanimously.

R. Waldron, Secy.

In Coun^l Feb. 20th 1741-2.

The within Petition read & voted, That the Proprietors (both resident and non-resident) of the first and second divisions of land in the Town of Rochester and the Proprietors of any part or parts of the said first or second divisions be subjected by a special Act to pay annually a tax of five shillings for a home lot and five shillings for a second division, and pro rata for a part of a first or second division, for & towards the support of the Gospel ministry in the said Town, for and during the space of three years next coming and that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly. It is to be understood that the five shillings above mentioned is to be according to the value of our present current Province Bills.

R. Waldron, Sec^y.

February the 23^d 1741—

In the House of Representatives.

The above Vote of Council Read & concurr'd & the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m

Feb. 23, 1741.

Assented to, B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for a guard of soldiers, 1746.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt. Genl And Governor-in-Chief, in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, in New England, and to ye Honourable Council & Representatives, in Genl Court assembled:

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Rochester in ye Province afores^d humbly *Sheweth:* That whereas your Petitioners are few in number & under Indigent circumstances, living in a wilderness, where we are continually liable to ye Assaults of ye Barbarous Indian Enemy who have killed four of our men already & taken one man & a Boy in ye week past & have killed & wounded a considerable number of our Cattle that we have found already (more being missing) and they are continually Lurking about our Houses and Fields (being seen by some of us almost every day) so that we cannot go out or come in without being liable to Fall by them, & our Families are suffering & we not able to go out to our labour, and we have no soldiers in the town at this time;—Therefore, we humbly Pray & Intreat your Excellency & your Honours to take our Deplorable circumstances under your wise consideration & to extend your paternal care & affection to us, By allowing us a suitable Number of soldiers to Guard us in our Garrisons & about our necessary employments from time to time; and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray, &c.

Rochester July 1, 1746.

Tim^o Roberts	Stephan Berey
Edward Tebbetts	Joseph Walker
John Laighton	James Rodger
John Jennes	Daniel McNeall
William Jennes	James Rodger jun
Jonathan Young	John Heard
James Lock	Ruben Heard
Henery Allerd	Matthew McFee
Thomas Drew	Abram Pearce
John Hammock	Beniman Richards
James Plleace ?	Ichabod Coson
Clement Deeren	Ebenezer Plaice
Ithema Sevey	Thomas Young
James Busey	Elezar Ham
John McFee	Solomon Clark
Joseph Richards	John Garlon
Beniman Heays	William Chamber^lin
Zebolon Damm	Solomon Perkins.
Jonathan Hodgen	

In Council, July 2^d 1746.
Read & sent down to the Honble House.
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y.

Petition for further relief and for a guard of soldiers, 1747.

Province of New Hamp^{r} } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain General, Governor and Commander-in-chief of his Majesty's Province aforesaid, The Honourable his Majesty's Council and House of Representatives:

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Rochester in the Province aforesaid Humbly *sheweth:*

Whereas the circumstances of your Petitioners by Distress of the Enemy, a Frontier Town, Whereby are much exposed, and suffered by the Inrode of the Enemy in the year past, with the loss of the Lives of five men, the Inhabitants of this Town, and many of our Brethren not less than Twenty, enlisted in his Majesty's service for the Canada Expedition, several families moved off by Distress and fear of the Enemy, whereby we are unable to Defend and protect the settlement and Improvements made here:

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray you will take our Distressed Circumstances into consideration, and grant us such a stated number of men as may be sufficient to Defend and protect this settlement and improvements and preserve the lives of the Inhabitants of this town. We humbly acknowledge and return our hearty thanks for Relief sent us the year past.

Our Improvements and further Improvements of our several settlements Depends upon the succour and relief of this Province, otherwise must unavoidably move in and leave our several settlements for the destruction of the Indian Enemy: Therefore your Petitioners again would entreat to grant our Petition:

Which is the Prayer of your Petitioners.

Rochester, March 2^{d} 1746–7.

Tim^{o} Roberts
Edward Tebbets
John Alan
& for his sons.
William Allen
Nathan Allen
John Wallingfar
& son, Peter Wallingford
John Young
John Bickford
Thomas Perkins
Jonathan Young
Samuel Richards
James Loock
Ichabod Horn
John Laighton
Samuel Laighton
Samuel Twombly
Saml Whithouse
Robert Knight
Jo^{s} Libby
Benj^{a} Richards
James Place
John McFee
Ebnezer Place
Joseph Walker
Reuben Heard
Richard Winford
Stephen Berry
Zebulon Dam
Alexander Hodgdon
Jonathan Hodgdon
John Heard
Beniamen Hayes
Daniel McNeall
Ithamer Sevey

Richard Bickford
William Jennes
Aaron Tibbets
Isaac Miller
James Merrow
Joseph Egerly
Thomas Young
John Garlend
Aleazer Ham

In Council, April 1, 1747.
Read & order'd to be sent down to ye Honble House.
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y^.

Letter of thanks, and petition for further aid.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt. Genl and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New-Hampshire; and to the Hon^b^ Council and House of Representatives in General Court Conv^d^

*May it please your Excellency and your Hon^rs^*:—This, agreeable to a Vote in a Publick Town meeting holden in Rochester October 19th, 1747, is to Return the greatfull acknowledgment of the said Town to your Excellency and Hon^rs^ for the Paternal care you have taken of us in the spring and summer past by sending Maj^r^ Thomas Davis to us with the soldiers under his command; Who by his prudent, dilligent and carefull managm^t^ under the Divine Providence, hath been instrumental of Defeat^g^ the Enemy in their attempts against us and so of Preserving our Lives and the Lives of our Familys; and we think it a Reasonable Duty for us to Render our thanks to your Excellency and the Hon^bl^ General Court in this Publick manner.

And we pray your Excellency and your Hon^rs^ if in your wisdom shall think it necessary and convenient to favour us with a few soldiers a while longer to scout about the Town upon the Discovery.

And inasmuch as we are unable of ourselves to support the Gospel Ministry amongst us, We pray your Excellency and your Hon^rs^ to lay a Tax upon the First and Second Division Lots of Land in Rochester belonging to the non-resident Proprietors to be paid annually towards the support of the Gospel Ministry in said Rochester, and your humble Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

The foregoing Articles were Voted in a Publick Town meeting holden in Rochester, October 19th 1747, and Voted that they be preferred to his Excellency the Govr and to the gen^l^ Court of this Province in manner aforesaid.

Attest, JNO. BICKFORD, Town Clerk.

In Council, Nov. 12th 1747.
Read and sent down to the Hon^bl^ House.
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y^.

Prov. of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives, 13th Novr 1747.
Voted, That ye Petitioners be heard on this Petition ye second Day of ye setting of ye Genl Assembly after the first of January next, & that yr Petitioners at their own cost advertise yr publick two or three weeks successively (between this day & ye aforesd Second Day) in ye Post Boy & Evening Post News papers (so called) of ye Prayer of ye sd Petition & this order of Court, that every one may have opportunity to shew cause if any there be why yr Prayer of sd Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce, Clk.

In Council, Eod. Die.
read & concurred.
T. Atkinson, Secy.

Nov. 19. Consented to

B. Wentworth.

Petition of John Dam, in relation to Roads, in Rochester.

Prov. of New Hampr } To his Excellency the Govr the Honble his Majesties Council, and the Honbl House of Representatives of said Province:

The Petition of the Town of Rochester in said Province Humbly *sheweth:*

That by reason of the unwearied Diligence of a Number of Gentlemen in Settlin the Wilderness Country to the Northward of us, and the abundance of Land-carriage and Travelling which is Daily or yearly increasing and Likely so to continue, Makes it Necessary to have a good Road or Roads to Encourage so essential a Plan for promoting the Bringing the unprofitable Wilderness to be serviceable to the Province and Encreasing his Majesties subjects in the same, and by Reason of our Natural situation the Roads must run a great length through our Town which is but a little part of it settled at one end in comparison of what is unsettled, so that the Road to New Durham Runs 7 or 8 Miles through said unsettled Land, and the Road to Water Town much further, and the Inhabitants Dont own one 16th if the 20th part of said wild Land, which is yearly increasing in value by settling the country above, and we have don between five and six hundred days work on the Road to New Durham, which is found Insufficient, and we have had one Presentment already for said Deficiency and are liable to more when any disaffected Party shall see cause:

Therefore we pray that your Excly and Honours will pass an Act to lay a Tax on the settled and unsettled Land through the whole Town to defray the charge of clearing and repairing the Roads through the unsettled Land from time to time as there may be occasion or so long and Recoverable in such a way as your Honors in your wise Penetration may judge Reasonable.

We trust you will consider our circumstances as a People, that in peril of our Lives from the sword of the wilderness, have Defended this frontier from which we are but just Relieved, so that our condition may well be thought to be otherways than if we had had our Liberty; for many or the most of us are not in a capacity to take our Packs and travel sixteen or Eighteen miles into the country to Do so much Labour as is needful on said Roads, and our families not suffer at home; Therefore we hope your Parental affections are such that you will lay the Burden where it Properly Belongs; and we as in duty Bound will ever Pray.

Signed in and on behal: of said Rochester
Per JONA. DAM. Agent.

Rochester, 12th Febr, 1768.

In Council, Febr 17th 1768.
The above Petition read & ordered to be sent down.
Geo. King, Depy Secy.

In the House of Representatives, Febr 18, 1768.
The within Petition being considered, voted, That the Petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the siting of the General Assembly next after the tenth day of March next, and that in the mean time, he cause the substance of this Petition to be printed in the New Hampshire Gazette three weeks successively, and give notice that any Person may then shew cause why the prayer thereof should not be granted.
M. Weare, Clr.

Eodem die. In Council,
read & concurr'd
Geo. King, Dep. Secy

Province of New Hamph } In the House of Representatives, March 17, 1768.
The within Petition being considered and the Petitioner and such who appeared to make Objection being fully heard:—
Voted, That the Petitioner have leave to bring in a Bill for laying a tax of one half penny pr Acre yearly for two years on all the Lands in said Township belonging to Residents and non Residents for making and Repairing the highways in sd Town, under the care of the Selectmen who are to Render an account of their Proceedings herein to the General Assembly: and any Person shall have liberty of paying his Proportion of said tax by Labour at two shillings pr Day finding himself and observing the Direction of the said Selectmen.
M. Weare, Clr.

In Council, March 18th 1768.
Read & concur'd.
Geo. King, Dep. Secy.

RUMNEY.

[Rumney was granted first to Samuel Olmstead, afterwards to Daniel Brainerd, Esq., 18th of March, 1767. A settlement, however, was begun there in October, 1765, by Capt. Jotham Cummings. The first minister, Rev. Thomas Niles, was a native of East Haddam, Ct.; graduated Yale College 1758; ordained 21 Oct. 1767, and settled in Rumney; left Feb. 10, 1788. He was a Congregationalist, but it does not appear that a church was organized there. Ed.]

Petition of sundry Inhabitants of Rumney against Daniel Brainerd, Esq.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Governor and Commander in chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire afores^d^ and to the Honourable Council and Assembly of said Province:

The Petition of the subscribers being Proprietors and Inhabitants of the Town of Rumney most humbly *sheweth:*

That Daniel Brainerd of said Rumney, Esqr is owner and according to the Province Laws has Right (as your petitioners suppose) to vote for a considerable number of Proprietors shares or Rights in said Town, and that he takes upon him in the meeting of the Proprietors of said Town to vote for sundry others Rights or shares therein, under color of Power and Authority from the owners of the same, which owners do not attend said meetings;—by which he is enabled to carry the vote and to decide all affairs in such proprietors Meetings according to his own pleasure, to the introducing much confusion and uncertainty in the publick & common affairs of said Proprietors (as your Petitioners apprehend) and which Power the s^d^ Brainerd uses in such manner as to injure and oppress your Petitioners particularly in the following Instances: as

First—That the monies Voted by the Propriety are not laid out for the Proprietors use or to answer the purposes for which they were granted by s^d^ Propriety, by which means the settlement of this Town is much retarded and your Petitioners greatly damaged.

Secondly—No Rate or Tax has been duly assessed upon the said Proprietors since the Grant of their Charter, till within a few months past, and the Rate now assess'd does not amount to the whole of the Proprietors Debts.

Thirdly—No settlement has been made with the Rev^d^ Mr. Niles the minister of said Rumney since he has been the minister of s^d^ Town, nor any part of his Salary paid whereby he has been obliged to commence a suit in Law for the Recovery of his Sallary, and the said Brainerd by means aforementioned

has procured a vote of said Proprietors to charge themselves without justice or necessity (as your Petitioners Imagine) with twelve shillings Lawful money upon each Right to defend said suit. The Rev. Mr Niles before s^d^ vote was pass'd having publicly offered to withdraw said suit at Law, and also to abate of his Salary forty Dollars, if the Proprietors would come to settlement with him according to said Proprietors vote.

Fourthly—Sundry of your Petitioners having paid divers sums to the Rev^d^ Mr. Niles and laboured for him with expectation that the same should be set off against their Respective Rates or Taxes to his Sallary, no Tax was for a long time assess'd, and now but a part of the money due to Mr. Niles is assess'd, and that comprised in ye same general sum with the other taxes; and no ways distinguished from them therein; so that though Mr. Niles is willing to discount the same yet your Petitioners cannot come to the knowledge of the particular sums due to him in ye Tax assess'd as afores'd.

Fifthly—Some of your Petitioners having requested of the s^d^ Brainerd that he could make a just assessment and procure a Rate bill combining the whole of ye money due to Mr. Niles according to vote of ye Propriety, ye s^d^ Brainerd refuseth to do it, and refuseth to accept of Receipts from Mr. Niles for the whole which is due to him as afores^d^ and by means of the said Brainerd's conduct and arbitrary use of his Power, your Petitioners Lands are exposed to be sold and will be sold as we are publickly notified on ye 23^d^ of this Instant July, unless your Petitioners pay the money, tho' they have paid the same in Labour:—Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray your Excellency and the Honourable Council and Assembly to take their case under consideration and to grant them such relief in the Premises as to the wisdom of your Excellency and the Honourable Council and Assembly shall seem meet; and particularly that such order may be made thereupon that your Petitioners may have the full benefit of what they have paid the Rev^d^ Mr. Niles and the labour they have done for him, by the same being set off to pay Mr. Niles, and that they may not be liable to pay over again those sums which they have already paid as afores^d^ nor be liable to have their Land sold for the non-payment thereof nor be driven to their Action in Law to recover a due allowance for their labour: And your humble Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Rumney, July ye 5th A. D. 1771.

Elihu Johnson
Barnabas Niles
Charles Clark
Isaac Clifford, Treas. or asses.
Pelatiah Watson
Joseph Clark
Matt. Ramsey
Hugh Ramsey
Thomas Ramsey.

Petition of Daniel Brainerd and others.

Province of New Hampshire, Rockingham ss. } To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esqr Capt. Genl Governor & Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province aforesaid, and the Honble his Majesty's Council for said Province:

The Petition of Daniel Brainerd of Rumney in s^d^ County & Province, in behalf of himself, and Mathew Grissell of Lime, David Day & Henry Champion of Colchester, & Joseph Spencer of East-Haddam, all in the Colony of Connecticut, Humbly *sheweth*:—

That your Petitioner and the afore mentioned persons are considerably interested in said Town of Rumney, under his Majesty's Grant thereof, and have with Jeremiah Clough Esqr Saml Moore & others been making Large Improvements therein by persons under them greatly to the Emolument of said Town:

That the time limited for doing the Duty conditioned in the grant aforesaid Expir'd the 18th day of March last: That a number of the original Grantees have neglected to perform the several conditions in said Grant express'd, much to the prejudice of the Settle^rs^ of said Town, namely, Humphrey Colby, Jabez Chapman, Miles Wright, Thomas Mosely and others:

Wherefore, your Petitioner humbly prays that your Excellency & Honours would take the Premises into consideration and grant your Petitioner and the said Matthew Grissell, David Day, Henry Champion and Joseph Spencer such further Time to complete the duty enjoyn'd upon their Interest, as in your great Wisdom shall seem meet; and also to dispose of the Interest and shares of the delinquent Proprietors to such of his Majesty's good subjects as will effectually settle & cultivate the same; and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever Pray.

Portsm^o^ May 4th, 1772.

The Names of the *other* Grantees, who are delinquent in Rumney, referr'd to above, viz. Thomas Niles, Clerk, Ephraim Rand, Aaron Brainard & Jabez Chapman: There is one family settled on these two original Rights, but on which particular one is uncertain, as they remain undivided.

DANIEL BRAINERD.

Petition of Rev. Thomas Niles.

To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq[r] Captain General and Governor-in-chief of his Majesty's Province of New hampshire, and to the Honorable his Majesty's Council of said Province:

The Petition of Thomas Niles of Rumney in the County of Grafton in said Province, Clerk, humbly *sheweth*:—

That your Petitioner was ordained about five years ago and has endured all the hardships attending the Beginning of a new Township as the first minister of said Town of Rumney, that he owns three Rights of Land in s[d] Township, viz. one as the proper Right of the first ordained Minister, another which was originally drawn to Ephraim Rand, by the free gift of the Proprietors of Rumney as an additional encouragement to him to settle so early in the Town among the first inhabitants, and a third granted to him the said Thomas Niles by Name in the new charter of s[d] Township:—all which Rights the Proprietors voted to be exempt from all Taxes while in the Possession of your Petitioner and during his Ministry in said town. That on the Right originally drawn to Ephraim Rand, your Petitioner has expended considerable money and labor, and has inclosed about twenty acres which he improves for pasturage, and is making Preparation for the settlement of a Family there as soon as possible; That on the Right granted him by Name in his Majesty's charter of the Township, your Petitioner has erected a House & Barn and mows several Tons of good English hay, and has other valuable articles of produce; That your Petitioner would have proceeded much farther in his improvements of all the above mentioned Rights if he had not been injuriously kept out of the greater part of his Salary due to him from the afores[d] Proprietors since his settlement in the Township: Your Petitioner therefore earnestly Requests that the Rights afores[d] may be continued to him notwitstanding any Representations which may have been made to your Excellency and Honors, of his having forfeited any of them; and relies on your Wisdom and goodness that said Rights will still be confirmed: And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

THOMAS NILES.

Rumney, June 19th 1772.

RYE.

[Rye was formerly called Sandy Beach, and was appurtenant to Portsmouth. After New Castle was constituted, Sandy Beach became a Parish of that place; and was incorporated as such in 1726, and allowed to send a representative to the General Assembly. ED.]

Petition for a new District or Precinct, 1721.

To his Excellency Samuel Shute Esqr Capt. Genl & Governor in chief in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of New Hampshire &c. To the Honble the Council & House of Representatives, now conven'd in Gen^{ll} Assembly in & for s^{d} Province:

The humble Petition of sundry the Inhabitants living about Sandy Beach, partly in New Castle, Hampton & Portsmouth, humbly *sheweth:*

That your Petitioners, the subscribers hereof, have for these many years past lived under great inconveniencies as to their having the free benefit of the gospell, most of us Living at great Distances from our Respective meeting-houses, especially those belonging to New-Castle;—for that besides the great Distance wee live from thence, there is the great Inconvenience of a Ferry, by the Reasons of which for neare half the yeare, Wee the Masters of families that are best able cannot but now and then attend upon the publick worship of God (as in Duty wee are bound) and when wee Doe, It is many times late within Night e're wee can reach our habitations: And besides this great inconvenience to ourselves, there is a much greater happens to the greatest part of our families (viz.) our women and children, who can rarely attend at all or not above two or three times in the yeare, and then but those that are groun to years; for our younger children that should imbibe in the precepts of the gospell with their milk, cannot attend untill groun to some years: Wee having four, five & some more than six miles, besides the Ferry; And wee can now count amongst us above two hundred and forty or fifty souls, and not one third capeable to attend as wee are now circumstanced: And we think ourselves capeable to maintain a minister of the Gospel, and to give a Competent Liveing, as our neighbouring Pa'shes & precincts do:

Therefore wee, your humble Petitioners prays that we may be set off a p'ticular precinct (from Mr. William Seveys and westward by the sea-side as far towards Hampton as the little Boars head or Little River, and back into the Country about three miles & a halfe or soe far as in your wisdom shall see meet) and that we may be impowered to make and raise all

our own Taxes & gather them: So prays your humble Petitioners.

John Lock
William Wallis
John Brackett
Thomas Rand
Joshua Foss
Edward Lock
Beniamen Sevey
William Lock
Nicolas Hodge
James Fowler
Samuel Seavey
Samuel Lock
Isack Libe
Jacob Libe
James Lock
John Garland
Ebenezer *Phil*brick
William Seavey
James Seavey
Philip Pain
Samuel Rand
Samuel Brackett
Joseph Seavey
Thomas Rand
Beniamen Seavy, jun
Moses Seavy
William Marden
Nemiah Beary
Nathanel Beary
William Beary
Samuel Beary
Samuel Dovost
James Marden
Richard Goss
Ebenezer Berry
Joseph Brown
Francis Lock
Jethro Lock
Stephen Beary
John Knowles
Hezekiah Jennes
Thos Jennes
John Jennes
Chris: Palmer
Samuel Sevey
Richard Jannes
John Lock, jr
Joseph Lock
Nathanel Rand
Samuel Dovst
Samuel Wallis
Willm Sevey jun.

Petition to be set off as a new Parish or District, 1724.

To the Honble John Wentworth, Esqr Liv^t^ Govr and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^tys^ Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honble the Council for s^d^ Province:

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants living in that part of New Castle called Little Harbour and Sandy Beach, and the Inhabitants living at the Eastward of the Little River comonly so called, att the Easterly end of Hampton, next Sandy Beach, and sundry others of Portsm^o^ Living near the s^d^ Sandy Beach humbly *Sheweth:*

That there being sixty familys or upward within the Precints above named who having for a long time lived att a great Distance from any meeting house where the publick worship of God has been carried on, and most of us having great familys which very Rare above one or Two of a family can go to the House of God for the greatest part of the time by Reason of the Distance we live from any meeting house, and thereby the greatest part of our familys have been Deprived of the Dispensation of the Gospell, and there has been

allmost a famine of the word and worship of God amongst us, theire being near four hundred souls whereof not above the sixth or seventh part can attend s^d^ worship which is very Predutiall to the glory of God, and Destructive to our Eternall wellfare, for the greatest part of us thus to be brought up in Ignorance which is a Greater Griefe to us than we can herein Express, and the only cause of addressing y^r^ Hon^r^ and the Honble the Council herein.

And for preventing the Difficulties and Hardships which wee have for a long time labour'd under, and for the advancement of the glory of God and good of souls, wee the subscribers hereof humbly prays your Hon^r^ and the Honourable the Councill that wee may be sett off a Particular District or Precinct for the maintaining a minister with the Priviledges of carying on the affairs of a Town or Parish according to the Bounds hereafter Exprest or as your Hon^rs^ in wisdom shall see meet, viz. To Begin att Sampsons Point and Run south west to the Road from Seaveys to ye Bank and then on the Southerly side of the Road by Capt. Walker's and Capt. Langdon's to the Road that goes to Breakfast (1) Hill (Exclusive of that part of Capt. Walker's and Capt. Langdon's Land that now lyeth in Portsmouth,) and on the southerly side of the Road from between Capt. Langdon's and Slopers farms to Breakfast Hill to the Road from s^d^ Sandy Beach to Greenland, and then on a South west line untill it meet with Little River in Hampton Bounds, and then on the Easterly side Little River to ye Sea, and then round by the Sea Side to ye Place where itt Began, and that all the Land that Elias Tarlten and Jeremiah Jorden and Abraham Libby enjoy may be poled off to s^d^ Town or Parish herein mentioned, wee having been at the charge of Building a Meeting house by the consent and att the charge of most of the Inhabitants within the Bounds herein mentioned: hopeing your Hon^rs^ will grant so Reasonable a Request for so good End, and your Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

Jotham Odiorne	Nathl Rand
Wm. Seavy	Wm. Lock
Wm. Wallis	Wm. Marden
Hezh Gennins	Jos. Lock
Tho. Rand	James Seavy
Phillip Payne	Wm. Berry
Jno. Gennins	Ez. Noles
Richd Gennins	Josha Foss
Richd Goss	James Lock
Saml Seavy	James Fuller

(1) So called from the circumstance that a party of Indians, after an attack upon the people on the "Plains" at Portsmouth, 25 June, 1696, encamped and took breakfast on the declivity of a hill near the bounds of Greenland and Rye. The hill retains the name to this day.—*Brewster's Ram. Ports.* Vol. I. p. 73. ED.

Saml Rand
Thos Rand, jun.
Jos. Seavy
Elias Tarlton
Jeremiah Jorden
Elex Simes
Benja Seavy, Jun.
Nathl Berry
Francis Lock
Stephen Berry
Jonathan Lock
Saml Doust
Eben Berry
Saml Brackett
Saml Seavy, Jun.
Jno Nolcs
Jno Lock
Jno Lock, jun.
James Marden
Solomon Doust
Christ Pamer
Tho. Gennins
Hez. Gennins, jun.
Saml Wallis
Nehemiah Bery
Richd Rand
Thos Edmunds
Edwd Lock
Jno Moor
Benja Seavey, jun
James Randall
Isaac Liby
Jacob Liby
Eben Philbrick
Saml Lock
Ab'm Liby
Wm. Seavy, tertius
Wm. Webster
James Shute
Wm. Seavy, jun
Saml Berry
Wm. Gammon
Stephen Marden.
63.

Vote and Remonstrance of Portsmouth against the Petition from Sandy Beach, 1724.

Att a Publick Town Meeting held in Portsm^{o} the 20th Ap^{r} 1724,

Vot'd That ye Prayer of Sandy Beach so far as it Relates to this Town is highly unreasonable & y^{t} Coll. Plaisted & Capt. Phipps Esqr & Mr. Wm. Fellows be a Comittee in behalfe of s^{d} Town to appear before ye Govr & Councill upon ye hearing of ye s^{d} Petition & Remonstrate against ye Same & Implead ye Petition^{rs} generally so y^{t} there may be no further curtailing or Dividing of ye s^{d} Town; which is already Reduc'd to very narrow limits, by New Castle, Greenland & Newington, & y^{t} ye Committe be Impower'd to im*ply* an Attorney in ye Premises if there be occasion.

True Copy—Test. Josh. Peirce, Town Clr.

21st Ap^{r} 1724.

Petition from sundry Inhabitants of Little Harbour, Sandy Beach and Hampton, 1725.

To the Honourable John Wentworth Esqr Lieut. Governor and Commander-in-chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamp^{r}; To the Honourable the Council And Representatives in Genl Assembly conven'd at Portsmouth in the s^{d} Province:

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of Little Harbour and Sandy Beach in the Town of New Castle, and sundry of the

Inhabitants of the East end of the Town of Hampton, and some of Portsm° or Greenland, most humbly *sheweth:*

That the dwelling-places of y^r^ Petitioners with their Families, which consist of the number of more than Four hundred Souls, are very far distant from the setled Meeting-Houses in the respective Towns to which they belong and thereby their attendance on the publick worship of God on the Lord's Days is rendered extremely difficult, and at some times impossible in stormy weather and in the winter season, especially, to their Women and children, so that they cannot pay to God the Honour of Publick worship on his day, which Religion and the good Laws of the government demand of them; and your Petition^rs^ with their wives and children are brought up in Ignorance of his word; Which evil cannot be remedied but by the favour of your Honours and the Honourable Assembly in constituting them a separate District or Precinct from their respective Towns, to which they now belong, and enabling them to carry on the Publick worship of God amongst themselves; and therefore yor Petitioners most humbly pray that your Honour and this Honourable Assembly would please to set off that part of New Castle called Sandy Beach & Little Harbour, with such of Hampton, Portsm° or Greenland as to you in your Wisdom shall seem proper to be a District or Precinct for the carrying on the worship of God and maintaining a School therein according to Law, and your Petitioners shall ever pray, as in duty bound, &c.

Samuel Seavy
Joseph Lock
John Lock, jun.
Thomas Jeffry ?
James Fuller
David Smith
Ezekeel Knowls
Wm. Gennings ?
Stephen Beary
William Lock
Jethro Lock
Thos Jennes
John Jennes, jun.
Saml Lock
Phillip Pain
Richard Jennes
Samuel Gove
Francis Lock
Isiak Lybe
Alexander Sims
John Knowles
Jonathan Lock
Joshua Foss
Ebenezer Berry

his
William X Marden
mark
William Marden, jun.
Solo Doust, jun.
Samuel Rand
Solomon Dowst
William Barry
Nehemiah Berry
James Seavey
Samuel Wales
Orem Dowst
Willm Sevey jun
James Shute
John Lock
Hezekiah Jennes
William Wallis
Samuel Brackett
William Lock
John Jenes
James Lock
John Garland
Beneamen Lamprey
Christofar Palmer

Ebenezer Philbrick	Nathil Rand
James Berry	Thomas Rand
Joseph Sevey	William Rand
Benja Sevey	Simon Knowles
Edwd Randle	Jacob Libbe
Isaac Dow	Nathaniel Bary
James Marden	Daniel Hasley
Thoms Rand	Wm. Gammon
John Pain	Edward Lock.

X^r ye 29, 1725. In the House of Representatives.

The within Petition being read: Ordered that the Towns of New Castle, Portsmouth, Hampton & Greenland be notified by the Petitioners to appear on the second day of the sitting of the Spring Sessions next, to shew cause (if any they have) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted.

Jas. Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m

Another Petition from the same source, 1725.

Whereas we the subscribers did formerly Petition to the Government of this Province to be set off for a Precinct or District, which we humbly conceive was denyed, because it was thought that if the prayer of the Petition were granted, the Great Island could not subsist to maintain a Minister there without the assistance of a great part of the subscribers;—now to take of that objection, and in order that the Gospel may be continued both at the Island and Sandy Beach, we the subscribers consent that Twenty Pounds annually during the Rev'd Mr. Shurtliff's life, or continuance in the Ministry at the Island, be allow'd as follows: viz. That whereas Little Harbour side with Sandy Beach used to pay near one third part of Mr. Shurtleff's Salary, and there being five persons on Little Harbour side that do not desire to join with us, the Petitioners, viz. Lieut. Jno. Sherburn, Tobias Lear, Jno. Odiorne, James Randle, and the Widow Wallis who used to pay about six pounds annually towards the minister's Rate, We the subscribers do promise and engage to make that sum Twenty pounds annually as afores^d;—Provided that we may be cleared from all other Parish Taxes to the several places where we do now belong.

December 14th 1725
In Province of New Hamp^r

We also will quit o^r right to the Twelve Pounds paid by the Isle of Shoals.

William Seavey	Edward Lock
William Walles	Benjamin Seavey
Thomas Rand	Samuel Walles
Samuel Brackett	Joshua Foss
John Lock	Samuel Berry
James Lock	Joseph Lock

William Lock	James Marden
Richard Goss	Saml Dowst
Nathanael Rand	Ebenr Berry
William Marden	Orem Dowst
Ezekiel Knowles	Samuel Seavey, jun.
Solomon Dowst	Francis Lock
Benjamin Seavey, jun	Jethro Lock
Samuel Rand	Samuel Lock
Philip Pain	Christopher Palmer
James Fuller	John Garland
William Gammon	David Smith
William Seavey, tertius	Ebenr Philbrick
Jethro Goss	Joh Knowles
Amos Rand	Stephen Berry
Joshua Rand	Jonathan Lock
William Marden jun	John Lock, jun.
William Lock, jr	Samuel Seavey
John Pain	Hezekiah Jenes
Thoms Rand, jun.	Richard Jennes
James Shute	John Jennes
William Rand	Nehemiah Berry
Zach: Berry	Thoms Jennes
William Berry	Nathl Berry.

Sandy Beach, Petition, Dec. 29, 1725.

Petition from the Parish of Rye, 1729.

To his Excellency William Burnet, Esqr Capt. General & Governor in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamps^h^ in New England & To the Honble the Council & the Honble House of Representatives in General Assembly now setting,

The Humble Petition of the Parish of Rye in New Castle, in the Province of New Hamp^r^

Humbly sheweth:

That whereas this Parish was established by a Special Act of General Assembly Apr. 30, 1726, and near one half of the freeholders & other Inhabitants of the same being Poled off to s^d^ Parish from other Towns, a considerable number of which did before belong to Hampton Town, & having no line fixed & settled between s^d^ Parish & Hampton, the s^d^ Parish are under ill conveniences respecting their Parish affairs, some moving out & Leaving the Burden of Taxes heavier upon the Remnant left, and some others moving in among us & settling in that part of the Parish that did belong to Hampton, which we are not impowered to Levy Taxes upon, nor to obledge to attend military exercises, nor to help in Repairing his Majesties High-ways in this Parish nor to assist in managing our other Parish affairs;—We, labouring under these & many other ill

conveniences, humbly prayeth your Excellency, the Honble the Council & the Honble House of Representatives to make choice of a Committee of indifferent men to fix & settle a Line between us & Hampton Town.

So shall your Hum^bl Petitioners ever Pray, &c.

Richd Goss, John Knowles, John Garland } Selectmen of sd Parish.

Dated at Rye
May 12, 1729.

In th House of Representatives.

Voted, That the hearing this Petition be suspended untill the fourth day of the next Session of the General Assembly and that a Copy of the Petition & this Vote be sent to the Select men of Hampton at charge of the Petitioners.

James Jeffry, Cler. Assm

May 14th 1729.
In Council, eod. die
Read & Concurr'd.
R. Waldron, Cler. Coun.

In the House of Representatives,

Voted, That the prayer of the within Petition be so far granted yt a Committee of indifferent p'sons be chosen & goe upon the spot & that a Plot be made and Bro't in to the Assm by sd Committee of the old P'ish of Hampton, with a Division of the North Hill part, alsoe of the whole P'rish of Rye, and alsoe of that part that belongs to Portsmouth & Greenland that is Powl'd off to Rye;—and make theire Return to the Genl Assembly next session for further consideration; and that the Petitioners pay the charges.

James Jeffry, Clr. Assm

Xbr ye 13th 1729.

Capt. Joshua Wingate & Mr John Sanburn } enters their Dissent agst the above vote.

Xbr the 16, 1729. In the House of Representatives,

Voted, That Mr. Speaker Wiggans and Majr Paul Gerrish, Mr. Bartholomew Thing and Majr Nicholas Gillman & Lieut. Wm. Moore of Stratham or any three of them be a Comittee for the ends above mentioned, to make Draught and that the old P'ish of Hampton & that part of Hampton called North Hill be alsoe notified of the time of Running the Lines, and that the Return be made to the Genl Assembly ye third day of the sitting of the next Sessions of the Assm and all parties then to appeare to make their objection (if any they have) why such Return may not be recd

James Jeffry, Clr. Assm

In Council, Decr 17, 1729.
Read & concurred, wth both ye above votes
R. Waldron, Cler. Con.

Petition from Selectmen of Rye, relating to the effects of a violent Storm, 1754.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr. Governour and Commander in Chief, in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, and the Honble the House of Representatives for said Province now in General Court siting:

Humbly shews—James Marden and Joses Philbrick two of the Selectmen of the Parish of Rye in the Province aforesaid (being the major part thereof) in behalf of the said Parish: That on or about the Nineteenth day of June last past there was a Violent Thunder Storm and there fell a very considerable quantity of Rain & Hail which reach'd through the said Parish and Damaged all the Inhabitants of the said Parish (three or four familys only excepted) very much by shattering their houses and barns, breaking the glass windos almost the one half thereof through the said parish; shattered the meeting-house and Parish house and Broke the glass thereof, that one hundred pounds old tenor will not be sufficient to repair the said Meeting and Parish house; Destroy'd almost all the apples in the said Parish, with almost all the English and Indian corn then and there standing and growing, of one half of the said Inhabitants; By means whereof the said Inhabitants are reduced to Miserable circumstances, with Regard to the fruits of the earth this year, And it will be as much as the said Inhabitants can do (and will be beyond the capacity of many) to repair their buildings and provide sustinence for themselves and cattle this year; and as the said Parish is but a poor place and the said Inhabitants are at considerable charge among themselves over and above the Province Tax, which in itself is very heavy, and considering the circumstances of the said Parish will be insupportable as their dependence is on the fruits of the earth (which are now destroy'd.) Wherefore the said James Marden & Joses Philbrick pray in behalf of the said Parish that your Excellency and Honours will take the case of the said Inhabitants into your wise consideration, and Releive the said Inhabitants by abating the whole or so much of the said Province Tax as your excellency and Honours in your great Wisdom shall think expedient, and your Petitioners in behalf of said Inhabitants as in duty bound shall ever Pray.

James Marden
Joses Philbrick.

July 24, 1754.

Province of New Hamp^r } July 26, 1754.

In Council, read and ordered to be sent down to the Honble ye Genl Assembly.

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y.

Petition for a Lottery to build a road, 1764.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^bl his Majesty's Council & house of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd, this 8th day of May 1764.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Parish of Rye, & of the Inhab^its of the South West end of Portsmouth; *Humbly Sheweth:*—

That it would not only be very beneficial to them, but to all other Travellers, who pass from Portsm^o to Rye, or from Rye to Portsmouth, provided a Road might be had & obtain'd across the woods from or near Mr. Thomas Cotton's Farm in Long Lane so called, to the highway in Rye near to Mr. Wallis Foss's, which would make the travelling from Portsm^o to Rye or from Rye to Portsmouth much more convenient, as it will save eight miles in travel to & from nearer than the road now goes, as there is no highway from said Rye to Portsmouth except at the North East End or at the South West end of said Rye, both of said highways being at the extream limits of said Parish of Rye, & being five miles distant from each other, which makes it difficult for your petitioners to send their wood &c. to market; which Road if obtain'd they think would be a General Good, & your Petitioners humbly conceive it might be had & obtain'd at the Cost & charge of seven hundred & fifty pounds new Tenor, but that your petitioners are not at present able in & of themselves to purchase said highway altho' so beneficial; Wherefore your petitioners humbly prays your Excellency & Honours, to grant them leave to bring in a Bill for a LOTTERY to enable them to effect the same & to be under such direction & Regulation as you in your great wisdom may think proper, & if any overplus arises thereby, to be disposed of as may be ordered by your Excellency & honours, & your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Joseph Jenness
Saml Jennes
Joseph Rand
Timothy Berry
Nathanel Jennes
Chris^t Gold
Jonath^n Brown
Job Jennes
Peter Johnson
Joseph Brown
Peter Johnson, jun.
Jonathan Fowl
Elijah Lock
Bickford Lang
Joseph Philbrick
Joseph Lock
Nathan Goss
Benj^a Garland
Jonathan Lock, jun.
Stephen Marden
Benj^a Marden
Ruben Motton
Saml Meservy
Roberd Sanders
Job Foss
Joshua Weeks
Joseph Yeaton
Noah Sevey

Thomas Cotton
John Furnuel
John Tarlton
Richard Tarlton
James Tarlton
Elias Tarlton, Jun.
Jeremiah Berry
Richard Lock
Samuel Wells
Joshua Rand
Wallis Foss
Ebnezer Marden
James Marden
Nathaniel Berry jun.
John Sevey
Nathaniel Cotton
John Edmonds
Joseph Edmonds
Bengmon Edmonds
Thomas Cotton
Elias Tarlton
Thomas Clark
Samuel Norton
John Norton
Nathan Norton
Benjamin Tarlton
Thomas Marden
Israel Marden
Thomas Cotton, jun.
John Bennett
Stephen Bennett
Elias Tarlton, Sen.
Joseph Langdon

Province of New Hampshire:

In the House of Representatives, May 10, 1764. This Petition being read, Voted, That the prayer thereof be granted & that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly.

In Council, Jany 18th 1765.

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson, jun. Sec^{y}.

SALEM.

[This Town formerly belonged to Methuen District, and appears to have been incorporated as a District in 1741–'42, but not as a Town until 11 May, 1750 (1). It was cut off, when the line was established, from the Towns of Methuen and Dracut.]

Petition of Inhabitants of Methuen, 1741.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr and the Honble Council of the Province of New Hampshire.

This Prayer of your humble Petitioners *show*, That, Whereas there has been a Petition lodged with your Secretary by Messrs. Henry Sanders and Benjamin Corning for a Township in that part of Methuen which has lately fallen into New Hampshire, with the westerly part of Haverhill as described in said Petition: This is the prayer of your Petitioners that said Petition be granted.

Jany 28th 1741–2.

Samuel Currier
Richard Kimball
Samuel Parker
Joseph Rite
Richard Carlton
Edward Carlton

(1) See Prov. Pap. Vol. V. p. 183, &c., and Vol. VI. pp. 13, 131, &c. Ed.

Daniel Curey
Bengaman Hilton
Benony Rowl
John Rowl
Samuel Rowl
Benony Rowl, jun
Josiah Rowl
Timothy Swan
Seth Patey
Richard Patey
David Sanders
Israel Young
Jonathan Wheeler
Abraham Ames
Bengaman Wheeler
Stephen Wheeler
Nathan Wheeler
Jonathan Wheeler, jun
John Gillmor
John Coffran
John Amy ?
John Loul
Richard Dow
David Louel
Daniel Pensha
Richard Kally
Abiel Kally

Timothy Johnson
William Johnson
David Dow
Nathaniel Dow
Josiah Clough
Abel Asten
Jonathan Corlis
Peter Youring
Joseph Pesely X mark.
Isaac Clough
Ebnezer Ayer
John Hall
Robert Ellenwood
Jonathan Woodbery
Nathaniel Woodbery
Samuel Giles
Ebenezer Woodbery
John Giles
John Ober
John Ober, jun
Oliver Sanders
Joseph Sanders
John Page
Samuel Sanders
William Sanders
Timothy Sanders

Petition of Methuen for redress of grievances as to taxes.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General and Governour-in-chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire,

May it please your Excellency :—

The humble request of your Petitioners, *Sheweth*—That whereas your Excellency and Counsel have been pleased to erect a District in that part of Methuen and Dracut lately fallen into New Hampshire, according to which the Inhabitants of said District as Incorporated by your Excellency have assembled and chose officers according to your Instructions, and levied the Province taxes; and inasmuch as your Petitioners who live in that part of said Methuen which is adjacent to Londonderry or Windham, are likewise taxed by said Derry or Windham officers and s[d] Derry or Windham constable or Collector has forcibly taken away a considerable quantity of our valuable goods and carried them off under pretence that it was for our Rates towards support of the government, though we have paid our Proportion of Province taxes already to our Constable, therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that your Excellency would be pleased to take some effectual method to prevent such disorders for the time to come

and to redress our grievances, and likewise that your Excellency would be pleased to take some care that we may be put into a capacity for the support of the Ministry which is in Danger of being obstructed by reason of our unsettled posture; and likewise that we may be enabled to carry on our other affairs.

Thus Pray your Petitioners.

Methuen, Desember ye 25: 1742.

Henry Sanders
Eben^r^ Woodbery
Nathl Woodbery
John Giles
Timothy Sanders
John Ober
Benj^a^ Corning.
Malachi Corning
Robert Ellenwood
John Hall
Jonathan Woodbery
William Sanders
Oliver Sanders.

Letter from Theo. Atkinson Esq. to Selectmen of Londonderry & Windham, 1742.

Portsmouth, Dec. 28th 1742.

GENTLEMEN—

It has been represented by some of the Inhabitants on the District of Methuen, as settled by Act of the Genl Assembly that the Constables of London Derry have levied the Province taxes on s^d^ Inhabitants, who had before paid their Province tax to the officer chosen by said District;—a copy of said representation you have herewith sent you for your Government:

I am therefore by his Excellency's order to advise you to return the said Taxes so levied to the respective persons, from whom they have been taken, unless they have heretofore been rated to your Town or Parrish, as the contrary behaviour may tend to create disorder & confusion in the Government.

THEO^d^ ATKINSON, Sec^y^.

To the Selectmen of Londonderry
or the Parish of Windham.

Sent by Mr. John Ober,
the day above s^d^.

Petition for a Parish, 1743.

To his Excelleney Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor & Command^r^ in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp^r^ the Hon^bl^e^ his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in Genl Assembly convened, June 25, 1743.

The Humble Petition of John Ober & Daniel Peasely as a Committee in behalf of the Inhabitants of a place called Methuen in said Province, *Shews*:—

That the said Inhabitants are in an unsettled state & condition, not being within any Parish or Town, nor having any Power or authority to raise money for the support of the Min-

istry, Schools & other necessary charges among them, for want of which they are involved in many Difficulties which are too obvious to need a particular enumeration:

That what was done by this Government as to making of Districts having relation to the Province tax only, could be no Relief to the said Inhabitants in Regard of the Difficulties above referr'd to, had that regulation continued, and as they have & shall always cheerfully contribute their proportion towards the support of the Government to which they belong, they are encouraged to hope for & depend on the justice of this Government to grant them those aids which are necessary to their subsistence & well being, & by virtue whereof they will be the better Enabled to pay their part of the Public Taxes:

That they have been now a long time in this uncomfortable situation and can't possibly any longer support ye Gospel Ministry among them under their present circumstances, & live too remote from any Town or Parish to enjoy it with them.

WHEREFORE, your Petitioners in behalf of their principals most humbly pray that they may be Incorporated into a Parish or Precinct by the following Boundaries: viz. Beginning at the East End of a Pond commonly called & known by the name of the Captain's Pond, & from thence to Run to the late dwelling house of one Richard Petty now deceased, upon a strait line, and from thence to the North part of Pollicy Pond so called, & so running by said pond to the South West part thereof, and then on a West course until it comes to Dracut Line & then by Dracut Line till it comes to the Province Line & so running by that till it comes to the place first mentioned: and invested with the usual Parish Powers & Privileges within this Province, and your Petitionors, as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JOHN OBER
DANIEL PEASELY.

In the House of Representatives, June 25, 1743.

The within Petition read, & Voted that the Petitioners serve the Selectmen of Windham (forth with) with a coppy of this Petition and the Votes thereon, and that they appeare Thursday the Seventh of July next (to shew cause if any, why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted) and if the General Assembly be not then sitting, then to appeare the third day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly at their next sessions; and that the Constables & Collectors of Windham do not make distress for any Rates or Taxes: Except for the Province tax, until after the hearing above intended.

James Jeffrey, Cler. Ass^m^

In Council, July 2, 1743.
Read & concurr'd.
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y^.

Eodem die—Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of Part of Methuen to be a Township, 1746.

To his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council of the Province of New Hampshire:

The humble Petition of us the subscribers, *sheweth:*

That whereas the Inhabitants of the District of Methuen, viz. those who are included within the following lines, that is to say, Beginning where the Line between the Province of New Hampshire and the Massachusetts Bay crosses the Ancient line between Haverhill and Methuen, from thence Northwesterly upon s^{d} Line to about 2½ miles. to a Red Oak tree marked, from thence westerly to the North East end of Pollicy Pond, so called, from thence thro' s^{d} Pond to the westerly end of s^{d} Pond, from thence westerly to Dracut Line so called, from thence Southerly upon Dracut Line to the above s^{d} Line between the Provinces, from thence upon s^{d} Province line to the bounds first mentioned; Those Inhabitants included in the abovs^{d} Lines have been at charges in erecting a meeting House and settling a Minister, and are commodiously situated to attend the worship of God in s^{d} District: And whereas the Inhabitants included in s^{d} Lines consist of but about Forty-five Families, who are of a different Perswasion from the Inhabitants of Windham, they being Presbyterians and we being Congregationalists—

We therefore your Petitioners pray that there may be a Township erected according to the above mentioned boundaries which boundaries are inclusive of us the subscribers and your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Meth^{n} District,
April 4, 1746.

Peter Merrill
Eben^{r} Woodbery
William Sanders
Josiah Clough
Moses Morgan
John Hall
John Hill
Jonathan Woodbery
Robert Corgel
Isaac Clough
John Ober
Joseph Peaslee
Oliver Sanders
Benj^{a} Corning
Saml Sanders.
Daniel Peaslee
Nathl Dow
Abiall Pittman
Nathaniel Woodbery
Richard Kimball
Samuel Currier
Samuel Parker
Oliver Kimball
Rapha Hall
Josiah Emerson
John Merrill
Isaac Clough, jun.
Henry Sanders
Robert Elmwood
John Ober, jun.
John Giles.

Petition in relation to taxes, 1746.

Province of New Hamp^r } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Honorable his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, the second day of December, Anno Domini 1746.

The Petition of Daniel Peasley Esqr. & John Ober, Inhabitants of that part of Methuen so called, that lyeth in this Province in behalf of sundry Inhabitants therein, most humbly *shews:* That by virtue of the District Act so called, they have rated sundry Persons and their Estates to pay their Province Rates there, and also that the same Persons and their estates are claimed by the Parish of Windham in s^d Province, and there rated to pay their Province Rates;—whereby they are twice rated; which lays such persons under a great burden and difficulty, and that the s^d persons and their Estates pay all their other Rates to Methuen afore s^d: Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency and honours to order that such persons and their Estates may pay their Province Rates to Methuen only, & your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

DANIEL PEASLE
JOHN OBER.

In Council, December the 5th 1746.
Read & ordered to be sent down.
Theo^d Atkinson, Sec^y

Petition for a Township, 1749.

To his Excellency the Governour, the Honourable his Majesties Council of the Province of New Hampshire:

The Petition of us the subscribers Inhabitants of the District of Methuen, *sheweth*—

That notwithstanding the care of this Government in forming of us into a District, and notwithstanding those Inhabitants of Windham who used to pay Taxes to Methuen are by special Act of Court obliged still to do it; yet since a Number of of those who were formerly of our Society continue in the Massachusetts-Bay Government, and since the Act of forming us Into a District is but temporary, it appears to us impracticable for us to fix a settled support upon the Revd Abner Bayley our Minister for the time to come, both upon account of our small number and upon account of our District being but a temporary settlement; which makes him in-

dulge tho'ts of a removal from among us; for having carried on the work of the Ministry among us for near ten years past without any such fixed support, now calls upon us to settle affairs with him, which we ought to do, otherwise must expect that he will remove from among us. Further, that since a number of the Inhabitants of the westerly End of the District of Haverhill are very conveniently situated to joyn with us, from which considerations your Petitioners humbly pray—That a Township may be incorporated out of the District of Methuen with such an addition out of the Westerly end of the District of Haverhill as may be sufficient to support the Gospel among us and carry on our other Town affairs.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Meth. District, Jan. 1, 1749.

Daniel Massey	Richard Kimball
Israel Young	John Page
Barney Rowell, jun.	Jacob Beetel
John Rowell	John Beetel
Josiah Rowell	Timothy Beetel
Joseph Sanders	John Merrill
Sam[l] Sanders	John Hastinges
Samuell Rowell	Nathaniel Merrill
Joseph Peaslee	Robert Corgil
Ebenezer Ayer	Joshua Bayley
Richard Kelly	Josiah Emerson
Daniel Peaslee	Samuel Currier
John Bayley	Rapha Hall
Peter Merril	Josiah Clough.

Letter from Daniel Peaslee to Thomas Packer, Esq[r]

Sir—When I was at your House I desired that you would represent our difficult cirumstances to his Excellency and Council and endeavor to obtain a Township by taking part of Haverhill District and that the Line should be Southeast from the South Easterly Corner of London Derry being a Red Oak near the widow Patee's Corn Mill; however having more fully examined that Line find that it will extend too far Easterly upon the Line between the Provinces, for having drawn a Plan which I herewith send you, the Easterly line of which is South Twenty three Degrees East from the above said Tree, but upon scaning this Plan find that this is as much too little as the other was too much, and accordingly should be oblig'd to you if you would use your endeavours that the above said Line should be from the above said Tree, South Thirty four Degrees East. What we aim at and desire to have are those Inhabitants that were by the settlement of the Massachusetts Bay Government, but are cut off by the Province Line, of Mr. Bachellers Parish.

Sir—I herewith transmit to you a Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Methuen District to be laid before the Governour and Council and as this represents our small number so we desire that all those who have been of late years obliged to pay taxes to the support of the ministry &c. to Methuen District, whose number is but small, together

with those Inhabitants on the westerly end of Haverhill as above specified should be incorporated into a Township: Sir, we are ignorant whether any thing further will be necessary; for which reason we should be obliged to you, if you will send up if any thing is. Sir,— Excuse this Trouble, Your endeavors to serve us will lay a fresh obligation upon this People and more especially upon

Your Humble Servant,

DANIEL PEASLEE.

Methuen District,
Jan. 24, 1749.
To Thomas Packer, Esq.

[The Plans above referred to may be found in MS. Town Papers, Vol. VI. pp. 173–183. ED.]

Petition for redress of grievances, 1756.

To his Excellency the Governor, The Honourable his Majesty's Council, & the House of Representatives in General Court assembled:

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers, *Sheweth*—

That your Petitioners formerly Inhabitants of the District of Methuen now of Salem were included in Windham & s^d^ District at the same time, and accordingly were taken in both valuations for Windham & Methuen District but obliged by Act to pay Province taxes to Windham, which we did pay in the years 1743, 1744, 1745, 1746, 1747, 1748, 1749, 1750, 1751, 1752, for which years there are arrears due from the District afores^d^ to the Province which by Act of Court are to be paid in the years 1755 & 1756; but no arrears due from Windham,—but we being since included in Salem are taxed to s^d^ arrears due from the District afores^d^, by which means your petitioners are greatly injured in the Premises.

Therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that the aboves^d^ difficulties may be removed & your Petitioners redressed in s^d^ grievances & your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Salem, Feb. 2, 1756.

John Ober	Eben^r^ Woodbery
John Dinsmoor	Andrew Balch
Robert Spear	Samuel Armor
Oliver Kimball	Joseph Merrill
Israel Ober	Gerg. Corning
Timothy Sanders	John Corning
John Hall	Joseph Hull
John Ober, jun.	John Hall, ye third.
Robert Ellinwood	

In Council, Feby 25th 1756.
Read & order'd to be sent down to the Hon^bl^ House
Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y^.

Province of } In the House of Representatives, Feby 26, 1756.
New Hamp^{r} } This Petition being read, Voted, That the prayer of ye Petition be granted, & That the Petitioners be exempted from paying any arrears of Province Tax to Salem before the year 1753, it appearing they had paid their Province Tax to Windham.

Andrew Clarkson, Clk.

In Council, Feby 27th 1756.
Read & concurr'd

Theodore Atkinson, Sec^{y}

Eodem Die, consented to.

B. WENTWORTH.

Certificate.

Province of } Windham, Jany 28, 1756.
New Hampshire } These may Certify whom it may concern that we the under subscribers having been Constables for the Parish of Windham from its first incorporation untill the year 1752, and have in our several terms of serving Received the Province Tax from every person assessed in the Lists committed to us that then lived within the original Bounds of Windham, as witness our hands.

James Gilmore, in	1743
David Gregg, in	1744
Alex^{r} Park, in	1745
John Kyle, in	1746
John Vance, in	1747
Joseph Waugh, in	1748
Francis Smylie, in	1749
William Thorn, in	1752

A List of the men that served as Constables in Windham, since it was first Incorporated untill the year 1752.

Nathl Hemphill, in	1742	Joseph Waugh, in	1748
James Gillmore, in	1743	Francis Smylie, in	1749
David Gregg, in	1744	Daniel Clyd, in	1750
Alexander Park, in	1745	Joseph Clyd, in	1751
John Kyle, in	1746	William Thorn, in	1752
John Vance, in	1747		

Another Petition for redress, &c.

To his Excellency the Governor, the Hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council & house of Representatives in General Court assembled.

The Humble Petition of us ye subscribers, *sheweth*

That your Petitioners Inhabitants of Salem paid our Proportion of the Province Taxes to Windham in those several years in which the District of Methuen were not taxed to the Province, & that the Selectmen of Salem for the year past taxed us to the said District Province Rate laid upon s^{d} District upon Acc^{t} of arrears due from them, by which means

your Petitioners are injured in the Premises; your Petitioners therefore pray that you will be pleased to give order that your Petitioners should be eased in the Premises & your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Salem, July 5th, 1756.

Saml Crowel	Israel Woodbery
Jona Morgan	James Twoddel
Nathl Woodberry	Joshua Thorndike
Edward Bayley	John Ashby
Jona Woodbery	William Sanders
William Leech	Abial Barker
John Giles	Hugh Campall

Council, October 13, 1756.
Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Honble House.
Theo. Atkinson Secy.

Province of New Hampr } In the House of Representatives, Octor 14th, 1756. The within Petition being read, Ordered, That the Petitioners be heard on said Petition on the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the first day of Novr next ensuing & that the Petitioners at their own cost & charge cause the Selectmen of Salem in said Province to be served with a copy of said Petition & this order of Court thereon, to appear & shew cause if any they have, why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

Andrew Clarkson, Clk.

In Council, Eodm die
Read & concurr'd (A true copy)
Theodore Atkinson, Secy.

SALISBURY.

[Salisbury was originally granted by Massachusetts and was known by the name of Bakers-Town. It was afterwards granted by the Masonian proprietors, 25th October 1749, and was then called Stevens-Town from Col. Ebenezer Stevens, a distinguished citizen of Kingston, many years a representative of that Town. It was incorporated by Charter from the government of New Hampshire, March 1st 1768, when it took the name of Salisbury; it originally included that part of Franklin which lies west of the Merrimack river. Ed.]

A guard provided for Salisbury as a frontier town. (1)

Province of New Hampr } At a Special Convention of the members of the Genl Assembly at Portsmouth on the 22d day of Augt 1754 in pursuance of an order from his Excellency the Governor, to the Sheriff of sd Province to summon the Members to Meet, as on file:

Whereas his Excellency the Governor by his Message of the twenty-first Instant takes notice of sundry Hostilities committed upon sundry

(1) See Prov. Pap. Vol. VI. pp. 26, 27, 296-309. Ed.

of his Majesty's subjects at a place called Stevens-Town within this Province by Indians (suppos'd to be of the St. Francis Indians) and that the Inhabitants on the Frontier are much exposed and so put in fear, that they stand in need of Protection and help:—Therefore it is agreed upon by the members of the House of Representatives that there be the number of sixty men enlisted or Impress'd (and his Excellency is hereby desired to give orders for the enlist^{g} or Impres^{g} y^{t} number) for the protection and defence of the Frontiers, not exceeding the space of two months, and that the allowance for their pay subsistance and amunition be the same as at the latter end of the last Indian War, and in order for a fund therefor, it is further agreed that there be so much of the Bills of Credit of ye Interest of the Twenty-five Thousand Pounds loan in the hands of the Treasurer, borrowed as will be sufficient for the same; and that for the Replacing the same in the Treasury it is further agreed, That there be a tax layd on the Polls and Estates within this Province agreeable to the last proportion to be payd by the 30th day of Decemb^{r} 1755, and that there shall be a Tax Bill for that end as soon as the Genl Assembly shall be in a condition to act in a legislative capacity.

Meshech Weare, Speaker.

Petition for aid in settling Salisbury.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Capt. General, Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, and to the Honble his Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General court Assembled:

The Petition of the Proprietors & Settlers of a Tract of Land in the Province afores^{d} comonly called *Stevens-Town*, humbly *Sheweth:*

That the s^{d} Proprietors have been at great expence in settling s^{e} Tract & encourageing the same, and in the late Wars have been at considerable cost to defend the same by Building a fort thereon & paying soldiers to keep the same, even at our own private expence; and there are now many families settled and many more settling; We have also Built a Saw Mill & are building a grist Mill, & yet there are costly duties to be performed, such as the building a Meeting-house, settling a Minister &c. And the s^{d} Petitioners being in no capacity to raise money for the Defraying these & other incidental charges; We, therefore Humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours will be pleas'd to add to our cost & labour this further encouragement to settle the waste lands, viz. To make an Act according to your Excelly's & Honours Wisdom that will enable the s^{d} Proprietors & settlers to raise moneys for the carrying on their settlement & defraying other Necessary charges that

may arise for the future; And so your Petitioners shall as in duty bound ever pray. &c.

TRUEWORTHY LAD,
In behalf & by order of the Proprietors and settlers.
June the 12th day, 1765.

In Council, June 20th 1765.
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Honble Assembly.
T. Atkinson jun. Secy.

Province of New Hampr } In the House of Representatives, June 20th 1765.
This Petition being read, Voted, That the Prayer thereof be granted so far as that the Petitioner have liberty to bring in a bill accordingly.
A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council, Eodm die
Read & concurr'd.
T. Atkinson, jun. Secy.

SANBORNTON.

[Sanbornton was granted by the Masonian proprietors, in 1748, to several persons of the name of Sanborn, and others; and was settled in 1765 and 1766 by John Sanborn, David Duston, Andrew Rowen and others. It was incorporated, March 1, 1770. Rev. Joseph Woodman was ordained their minister in November, 1771, when there were about fifty families in town. ED.]

Petition to be exempted from taxation.

Sanborn Town, January ye 8th 1768.

To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief, in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, in New England:

The Humble Petition of ye Inhabitants of Sanborn Town: We, the Inhabitants of this Town, Promicing our selves your Excellency's Protection, Both in our Public & Private interests, Humbly beg ye Liberty of Declaring to your Excellency, ye Present Condition of this infant Town, which is as followeth, viz: We have thirty-two Familys in Town, & a number more we expect will sone move in, & we doubt not But that in a few years we shall if Prospered, be a flourishing Town, able to support our familys, and be a help to ye Publick, But at Present we are under a necessity of going to other Towns for meny things to support our selves and our Cattle which are but very few, ye time Being so very short since we moved into Town, there Being no more than seven familys

that have Been in Town so long as two years, & they were Poor People that mov'd in for ye sake of Cetching a few fish to support their familys; many of us have Been here But one year & some not so long, our Land is very heavy to clear & after it is clear^d^ & affords us a considerable Crop of indian Corn it is next to imposable to Plow the Land for some years by Reson of ye stumps & Roots; there hath Been But a very few acres ever Plow^d^ in Town, not more then six or seven men that have Plow^d^ any & on ye whole it is not without a great deal of Difficulty that we Bring ye year about, Being obliged to spend on the Store we had Before we moved up, those that had any & those that had not, to Run in debt many of us or be beholden to friends, which cant we humbly conceive be thought strange considering that this was all a wilderness so very lately.

Now with submission to your Excellency's Pleasure, our humble Petition is, that your Excellency would Consider our Sircumstances & Release us from paying any tax for a Little time:—your Excellency granting which we Humbly conceive will be an advantage, not only to your humble Petitioners But also to the Publick as it will enable us to make the greater Progress in clearing our farms & so of consequence to Pay ye greater tax which at present could be but very small, having but a Little to pay for.

We remain your Loyal humble servants

James Cates	Edward Kelly
Thomas Sencler	Daniel Samborn
John Gale	Benjamin Samborn
John Samborn	Eben^r^ Morrison
Josiah Samborn	Thomas Gilman
Winthrop Hoit	Benjamin Darling
William Kineston	Nathl Burley
Satchel Clark	John Folsom
Cele Weeks	Jon^a^ Lary
Daniel Lary	Solomon Cope
Aaron Samborn	Saml Shepard
David Dustin	Moses Danforth
Jonathan Smith	Andrew Roen
Josiah Kentfield	John Gipson
Jacob Smith	Saml Smith
Jonathan Thomas	Philip Hunt
Thomas Lyford	Danl Fifield.

[NOTE. The above names are mostly written by one hand: which may account for the spelling of *San*born, uniformly with an *m*. ED.]

Petition for Incorporation.

Province of New Hampshire.

To his Excellency, John Wentworth, Esq[r] Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province aforesaid, In Council.

The Petition of Joseph Hoit of Stratham & his Associates, humbly *sheweth:*

That your petitioners being agents for, & interested in the Township of Sanborn (so called) in which there are upwards of Forty Familys settled, who are very desirous of being incorporated into a Town, for many good reasons, humbly request your Excellency & Honours to grant them that privilege by a Charter of Incorporation as usual, and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JOSEPH HOIT
JOSIAH SANBURN.

Portsm[o] 1 March 1770.

Petition for the appointment of a Justice of the Peace.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq[r] Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, In Councill.

The humble Petition of the Subscribers, Proprietors of the Town of Sanbornton in said Province *Sheweth*:—

That your Petitioners humbly conceive that it would be greatly for the Benefit of the Inhabitants as well as the Proprietors of said Town to have one of the Inhabitants of said Town Comissionated as a Justice of the Peace there, and having understood that the Inhabitants have already petitioned your Excellency that Daniel Sandborn Esq[r] of that Town may be Appointed by your Excellency to that honourable Place, We begg Leave to join them in the said request and Pray your Excellency to appoint him accordingly (and do heartily recommend him as the most suitable Person for keeping and Promoting Peace & Concord amongst the said Inhabitants). And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

July 10th 1771.

Sam[l] Folsom	Abraham Perkins
Joseph Hoit	David Fogg
Theophilus Rundlet, jun.	Jonathan Rawlings
Jethro Person	Joseph Smith
Edward Taylor	William Chase, jun
Josiah Folsom	Samuel Fogg
John Fogg	Jeremiah Sanborn

John Taylor
David Burly
Joseph Clark
Ezra Barker
Josiah Sanborn
Josiah Dearbon
John Dearbon
Daniel Hoit
John Folsom
Eben[r] Samborn
Jonathan Jewett
Jacob Jewett
John Sanborn
Joseph Hoit, jun.
John Hopkinson.

SHELBURNE.

[As early as 1775, David and Benjamin Ingalls commenced a settlement at Shelburne, and not long afterwards several families were added. The town was not incorporated until December 13, 1820. Ed.]

Petition of Daniel Rindge, Esq[r]

Province of New Hampshire:

To his Excellency, John Wentworth, Esq[r] Governor in Chief in & over said Province The Hon[bl] his Majesty's Council in s[d] Province, in Council convened 25th May, 1770.

The Humble Petition of Daniel Rindge of Portsmouth in said Province, Esq[r] in behalf of himself and the other Proprietors of Shelburne in said Province, *Sheweth:*

That the Township of said Shelburne is very mountainous and Rockey, by means whereof a considerable Part of the same is and ever will be useless to the said Proprietors. Wherefore, your Petit[er] humbly prays, in behalf of himself and said Proprietors, that your Excellency and Honors wou'd be pleased to make them an additional Grant of Land agreeable to the Plan herewith exhibited, or in any other manner thought advisable, and your Petition[r] shall ever pray.

DANIEL RINDGE.

Granted 4th of July, 1770.

SOCIETY-LAND.

[Incorporated 14th January, 1774 (1). Ed.]

Petition for Incorporation.

To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire & Vice Admiral of the same &c. the Honourable his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

The Petition of the subscribers, Inhabitants on that part of that Tract of Land known by the Name of the Society Land, Humbly *Shew*:—That we are Purchasors from the Purchassion of John Tufton Mason Esqrs' Patent, and have not Legal Authority to oblige any person to support the Gospel, Nor to Build Mills or Bridges, or clear Roads &c. & must either Live without all these great Privileges, or a few men be at the whole expence, which will ruin their families.

Therefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray your Excellency & Honors to Incorporate the Tract of Land hereafter described into a Township, with Town privileges, (viz.) Beginning at the North West Corner of Francestown, from thence East to the Township of Weare, from thence North to the Township of Henniker, from thence West Bounding partly on Henniker, & partly on Hillsborough six miles, from thence South to the first bounds mentioned: & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray, &c.

Society Land, April 26th 1773.

William Forsith
James Grames
Asa Dresser
David Wilson
Benja Bradford
Thomas Aiken
Joseph Mills
William Aiken
Robert Mills
William Farson
Nathanel Sweeter
Ephraim Abbot
Neniah Aiken
William McKeen
John Wiley
William Robson
John Bayls
Francis Grames
John Lyon
Samuel Paten
Alexander Hogg.

(1) See Prov. Pap. Vol. VII. p. 24. Ed.

SOMERSWORTH.

[Somersworth was formerly a part of Dover; it was made a Parish Dec. 19, 1729, and incorporated April 22d, 1754. The settlement was probably begun as early as 1650, by William Wentworth, John Hall, Wm. Stiles and others. ED.]

July 23, 1746. } *A true list of all the Train Souldiers in the Parish of Sumersworth, under com'd of Thos Wallingford, Capt. are as followeth, viz.*

Sergt. John Ricker
Serg. Philip Stackpole
Serg. Thomas Tebbets
Serg. William Wentworth
Corpo Ebenezer Garland
Corpo Samuel Joanes
Corpo Samuel Rendall
Thomas Stevens, Richard Gorden } Drumrs
Samuel Downs
Ebenr Wentworth
Joseph Wentworth
John Mason
Joseph Hussey
John Hall
Daniel Goodin
Samuel Hall
James Hall
Benja Wentworth
Ephraim Rickers
Melurin Rickers
Abram. Mimmey
Samuel Nock
Eleazr Wyer
Henry Nock
Thomas Tebbets jun
Benja Twombly
Ezekiel Wentworth
Ebenr Roberts
Thomas Wentworth
George Rickers, Ter.
James Kiney
Robert Cole
Benja Stanton
James Clements
Moses Tebbets
Saml Wentworth
John Vicker
John Lebrock
Samul Austin
Benja Austin
Edward Eliot
George Rickers, jun.
Samuel Wentworth, jun
Jonathan Wentworth, jun
Nathl Nock
Jonathan Merrow
Ebenr Heard
John Wentworth
Hatevil Roberts
William Hanson
Benja Roberts
Lemeul Perkins
Drisco Nock
William Stackpole
James Foy
Joseph Varney, jun
Elipha. Cromuel
Daniel Smith
Meturin Rickers
Benja Heard
James Stackpole
John Calland
Isaac Hanson
Daniel Hanson
Richard Philpott
John Sulevant
Saml Allien
Edward Allien
John Muzert
Samuel Waymouth
James Nock
Lane Roberts, jun
Ichabod Rawlins
Ebenr Downs, jun
John Rickers, jun
Joshua Roberts
Terah Sprage
Daniel Libbee
Neal Vickers
Dodepher Garland
Richard Goodin, jun
Benja Warren
Samuel Roberts
Francis Roberts
Saml Downs, jun
Saml. Jones, jun.
Joseph Hussey, jun.

Ebenr Roberts, jun.	Tristram Heard
Job Clements jun	William Chadwick
John Ferall	William Downs
Zebn Coason	Peter Cooke
Elipha. Randall	John Downs
Mark Wentworth	Noah Cross
Joseph Richardson	

A true List as Attest[d] by me. Total 101.

Petition for Town Priviledges, 1743.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq[r] Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable his Majesties Council and the Honourable the House of Representatives for the Province afores[d] in General Assembly convened:

The Humble Petition of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Parish of Summersworth within the s[d] Province humbly *sheweth*:—

That the s[d] Parish being sett off a seperate Parish by an Act of the General Assembly made and passed in the third year of his present Majesty's Reign whereby the Inhabitants of s[d] Parish are invested with all the Powers and Priviledges of a Parish as to maintain an Orthodox Gospel Minister their poore and School and to choose all Parish officers, now the growing charge of maintaining the minister, poore and school and other necessary charges arising insomuch that the Rates for this present year are six shillings & Eight pence on the head or four pence per pound in the new Tenor which makes the taxes very high, and our Numbers being small, also the Land not taken up is so mean that there is but little probability of our numbers increasing, as also that when we have chosen a Collector to gather the Parish Assessment & he having served in that troublesome office hath beene Re-chosen by the Town of Dover as Constable, which office he hath been Obliged to serve in or otherwise to pay his fine, and also if any person that was chosen by s[d] Parish as Collector and Refused to serve there was no Law to compel him to pay his fine:—Wherefore to Remedy the above Grievances your Humble Petitioners Humbly Pray that your Excellency and Honours would be pleased By an Act of General Assembly to Invest us with the priviledges and Powers of a Town, and a small matter to enlarge our Boundaries according or near our first Petition: viz. To begin at a place in Quocheco River called the Gulf and from thence on a Straight Line to the southern side of Varney's Great Hill, and from thence to run on a North West

point of the Compass to the end of the Township and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Dover, May 19th 1743.

Paul Wentworth	Nathaniel Ricker
Gershom Wentworth	Phinias Ricker
William Wentworth	John Robertes
Moses Stevens	Daniel Smith
Thomas Miller	Ebenezer Robearts
Saml Randal	Alexander Robarts
Ezekiel Wentworth	Richard Downs
John Wentworth	Silvanus Nock
Loue Roberts	Samuel Nock
Philip Yetton	Benja Wamyorth
Lane Roberts	Daniel Goodin
Joseph Ricker	James Hobbs
John Ricker	Richard Goodin
Samuel Wintworth	Jonathan Merrow
Jeremiah Rawlings	Daniel Plumer
James Clement	Benja Mason
John Sullivan	John Mason
Ephraim Wentworth	Saml Walton
Garshom Dowens	Joshua Stakpole
Thomas Dowens	George Ricker
John Downs	William Stakpole
John Drew	Joseph Wentworth
Moses Carr	Samuel Stakpole
Thomas Nock	Joshua Robards, junr
Nathanel Nock	Philip Stakpole
Benja Twombly	Samuel Downs
John Ricker	

In the House of Representatives, December 1, 1743.

The within Petition read, and voted That the petitioners at their cost serve the Select men of Dover with a coppy of the Petition and votes thereon, and that they appeare before ye General Assembly ye 2d day of Jany next, if ye Assm be then sitting; if not, on the third day of the sitting of the Genl Assm at their next sessions, to shew cause (if any) why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted.

James Jeffry, Cler. Assm

In Council, Decr 2, 1743.

Read & Concurrd.

Theo. Atkinson, Secy.

Eodem Die, assented to

B. Wentworth.

SOUTH HAMPTON.

[Was incorporated by Charter, May 25, 1742. Ed.]

Petition of sundry inhabitants to be set off, &c.

To his Excell^{y} Bening Wentworth Esqr Captn Gen^{ll} and Govern^{r} in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in N. England and to the Honble his Majesties Council and Representatives in Genl Court assembled Septem^{br} 14th 1742.

The Petition of sundry of ye Inhabitants of the Est part of Salisbury which by the runing the new Line fall into the Province of New Hampshire and (as we are informed) are included in the late charter granted for ye Township of South Hampton, Humbly *Sheweth* :—That we the subscribers being comprehended in the afores^{d} Charter and by reason thereof exposed to greater hardships and unreasonable difficulties as to all Parish and Town affairs, being six miles or more distant from their Meeting house, we cannot with our families attend ye publick worship there, neither can we have ye privilidge of voteing in their publick affairs respecting Town or Parish, for if their meetings are warned in the usual Method we shall have no knowledge of them, or if by chance we hear of any of them, such is the distance that we can't attend them; and therefore it will be very prejudicial to us to stand in such relation to them with whom we can neither do our duty nor injoy our just Rights and Privileges;—We therefore pray that (as the rest of our Neighbours) we may be set off as to our persons & Estates from the said Town of South Hampton and annexed to Hampton Falls there to do duty and injoy ye privilidges of Townsmen, so shall y^{r} Petition^{rs} ever pray, &c.

John Collins	Jonathan Walton
Saml Collins	Joseph Norten
Samuel Smith	Jacob Smith
David Norten	Eliphaz Dow (1)

Province of New Hamp^{r}

In Council September the 16, 1742.

The above petition read & Voted thereon that the selectmen of South Hampton be served with a copy of this Petition & the vote thereon, by the Petition^{rs} & at their expence; & that they appear on the 3^{d} day of sitting of the Gen^{ll} Assembly next, to shew cause if any they have why the Prayer of the Petition should not be granted.

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^{y}.

Eodem Die.

In the House of Representatives, the above Petition Read & y^{e}

(1) A note in the margin by the late John Farmer, Esq. says, "Eliphaz Dow murdered Peter Clough in 1754, and was executed 8 May 1755." See Prov. Pap. Vol. VI. pp. 338, 384. Ed.

vote of Council thereon, and voted a concurrence wth ye Vote of Council.

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m^.

September ye 17th 1742. The within vote Assented to, B. WENTWORTH.

In the House of Representatives 9^br^ 19th 1742.

The within Petition read and voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted & that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m^

Prov. New Hamp^r^ November 23^d^ 1742.

In Council.

the above vote read & Concurrd.

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y^.

In the House of Representatives, 9^br^ the 24th 1742.

Mr. Sec^y^ bro't down the within Petition to be Reconsidered, 9^br^ ye 25th 1742. The within Petition Read & the House having reconsidered the affair Voted, That a Line be extended from the dividing Line between Hampton Falls P'ish & ye P'ish of Kensington to the Province Line, being south four degrees West, and that all the Inhabitants & their Estates to ye Eastward of y^t^ line that did belong to South Hampton shall be annexed to Hampton Falls P'ish, And ye Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m^

In Council, Nov: 25, 1742.

Concurrd with this amendment, viz. After the words *Hampton Falls Parish*, be added,—to all Intents & Purposes except the Dutys of repairing & mending highways below the above s^d^ Line, & paying their Province Tax which is to be paid as usual till a new Proportion or the further order of the Genl Assembly

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y^.

Eod. Die. In the House of Represen^ts^ the above vote of Council for amendm^t^ Read & Concurrd.

James Jeffrey, Cler. Ass^m^

Eod^m^ Die.—Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of John Page and Benjamin Baker, to be set off, &c.

[Compare the papers which follow, with those pertaining to Newtown, pp. 607–630. ED.]

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Cap. Genl and Governour in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in N: E: And to the Honourable his Majesty's Council and Representatives in General Court Assembled: November — 1742.

The Petition of John Page & Benjamin Baker late of Salisbury, now incorporated with the Inhabitants of South Hampton, Humbly *Sheweth:*

That by Reason of our great Distance from the Place of Pub-

lick Worship in s^d^ Town of South Hampton, We cannot without great difficulty with our Families attend the Publick Worship there, nor attend other publick meetings for the management of Town affairs: And therefore pray that We may be polled off to Hampton Falls as to our Persons and Estates, there to do duty & enjoy Priviledges as sundry others of our Neighbours, in like circumstances with our selves, have been. So shall your Petitioners ever pray &c.

JOHN PAGE
BENJAMIN BAKER.

South Hampton, Septr 27th 1742.

In the House of Representatives 9^br^ ye 19th 1742.
The above petition read and voted, That the Petitioners serve the Selectmen of South Hampton with a Coppy of this Petition and Votes thereon, & that they appeare the third day of ye sitting of the Genl Assembly at the next sessions to show cause (if any) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m^

Prov. of New Hamp^r^ Novr 20th 1742.
The within Vote of the House read & concurrd at the Council Board.
Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y^.
Nov. 24th 1742.
Assented to,— B. WENTWORTH.

In the House of Representatives, May 25th A. D. 1743.
The within Petitioners heard & the Select men of South Hampton: The House having considered thereof, Voted that the Petition be dismissed.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m^

Answer to the foregoing Petition by the Selectmen of South Hampton.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain Genneral and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable his Majesties Council and Representatives in General Court Assembled, May ye 10th 1743.

We the Select men of South Hampton have taken opportunity at this time to express our loyalty to the King's Majestie and our Duty to your Excellency and Honours and to the Representatives: We humbly confide in your tender Regard to our holy Religion that whereas we have setteled a Church of our Lord Jesus among us that you will protect us so that we may be able to maintain it.

We have been served with a coppy of a Petition that Doc. John Page and Mr. Benjamin Baker have prefered to this Honourable Court in order to pole off from us, which we oppose for these Reasons following.

1. Every man cant have an equal priviledge in going to ye publick worship, in all Towns and Parishes there is some without as well as some within and since Doc. Page and Mr. Baker's lines are fallen to them without we think they ought to be content.

2dly We laid out a drift way from ye high way that leads from Doc. Page's house a cross to our Meeting house and we made gats and some of our brethren came to us to meeting but they found some difficulties by Reason of ye Gats so they were desirous that we would lay it out an open high way and we being willing to shew them all Christian Regard and kindness layd it out an open high way and have agreed wth ye owners of ye Land and ye way cost ye Town about one hundred and fourty pounds and we have made ye way so convenant to pass & Repass that som of our brethren comes to us to meeting and Doc. Page and Mr. Baker may come with their neighbours.

3dly We have laid out a high way from ye mouth of a high way y^t^ leads from our meeting house to Powers River a cross Richard Curriers land to a high way y^t^ leads from Almisbury through South Hampton to Kingstown to oblige our brethren at ye West part of ye Town, and we have built a Bridge over Powers River and we have been at an Extraordinary charge in building a long and high Cassey over a Great water y^t^ is flow'd by a Dam a cross ye River and we have made it convenant to pass and Repass And several familys come to us to meeting.

4^ly^ If Doc. Page and Mr. Baker should be polled off there are some at ye west end of ye Town y^t^ lives furder of ye Meeting house then Doc. Page and Mr. Baker, and they will say there is more reason y^t^ they should poll off then Doc. Page and Mr. Baker, because they lives furder of. Doc. Page and Mr. Bakers polling off Dont bring them any nere ye Meeting house, but makes them more charge to pay and they as far from meeting as ever and so they will be for polling off too and so it will threaten ye Dissolution and confusion of our Town.

5^ly^ Your Excellency and Honours was pleased to grant us a Town calld by ye name of South Hampton for which we thank you and you wear pleasd in your greate wisdom to send us a Committee of very judicious men and they came along by Doc. Pages and Mr. Bakers houses and so came across nere where we laid out our new high way to our Meeting house and viewed ye Town to ye Extent, and they judged that all ye Inhabitants that lives above or to ye westward of Kinsington line that was Run by Capt. Robie out to ye Province line should stand with us, and we stands by their judg-

ment, and we shall take hard that one or two privit men should spoil a Publick Intrest.

6ly Doc. Page and Mr. Baker have set forth in their Petition that they cant come to ye publick worship with us by Reason of the great Distance therefrom nor attend other publick meetings for ye management of Town affairs, whereas we think they are nearer to our Meeting house than they are to Hampton Falls Meeting house, and we think it cant in Reason be thought that ever Doc. Page and Mr. Baker will or intend to make any constant practis in going to Hampton Falls to meeting for they make it their constant practis in going to Salisbury to meeting, and will have their priviledge wth them, and we think it reasonable that they should stand with us because there is about thirteen families that lives at the North west End of Salisbury that constantly Assemblys with us.

7ly By What has been offered we doubt not but your Excellency and Honours will se just cause in your great wisdom to revers Doc. Pages and Mr. Bakers petition, and accordingly grant us our Request.

Your humble Servants,

REUBEN DIMOND
JOSEPH FRENCH, jun } Selectmen for South Hampton
EPHRAIM BROWN

Memorial of Inhabitants of South Hampton.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council.

After our Duty expressed we find ourselves constrained to make our humble acknowledgment of your Goodness extended toward us, and Return you thanks for granting our Petition and Incorporating us into a Town called by ye name of South Hampton. We have been credible informed that some of our Dessenting brethren that lives at ye upper or west part of our Town have preferd a petition to ye Honourable Court to be set off from us and we hear all so that they have presented a copy of a vote to your Excellency & Honours that we are willing they should be set off, which Vote we oppose for ye Reasons hereafter mentioned. Our Dessenting brethren Did at a Town meeting present us a petition which is as followeth:

September ye 29th 1742. We whose names are under written Do Petition to the Town of South Hampton that they would agree to pass a

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vote that that part of ye town which lyeth upon ye west side of Powers River should be set off as soon as they are in order to Settel a minister y^t^ is more convenant for them that is as many as shall be willing to be set off, then we will agree to help support ye minister here till then; If you will finish ye meeting house and settel a minister upon your charge and like wise Release us from doing any thing toward ye meeting house that has been past: Jonathan Farren, Micah Hoit, James George, John Eliot, Aaron Currier, David Goodwin, David Martain, Timothy Farren, Thomas Greenfield, John Sargent, Abraham Merril, Robert Martain, Nathaniel Ash, Philip Challis, Samuel Goodwin, William Sargent, Caleb Hobs, Daniel Goodwin, George Martain, Jonathan Kimball, Benjamin Kimball, Roger Eastman, David Colby, Jacob Colby, Zacheus Colby, Jonathan Wotson.

A true Copy Examined by me,

Reuben Dimond, town Clerk.

Now we had no power to set our Dessenting brethren off, for as we had not power to Incorporate ourselves into a Body so we had no power to make any secession and it is not for us to arrogate that to ourselves which belongs to the Honourable Court; but we told our Dessenting brethren that it was a time of great charges with us and if they would joyne with us in our extraordinary charges, when they should be thought capable by lawfull authority to maintain ye Gospel of Christ among them y^n^ we would pay back again their part of ye extraordinary charges that should arise to them in finishing ye meeting house, setteling a minister and building for him: now we did not make this offer, because they could make any majority upon us, but we did it for peace, we considering how good it is for brethren to Dwell to gether in Love and unity, and that peace is ye beauty of a Society and it is so necessary and so valuable that we were Ready to sacrifice any thing to procure it, saving only a good conscience, and so we proceeded to a vote which is as followeth:

At a meeting of ye Inhabitants of ye town of South Hampton, September ye 29, 1742, Cornet Abraham Brown was chosen Moderator for ye same meeting. At ye same meeting it was taken into consideration that, Whereas there are a number of Inhabitants of ye upper or west part of this town y^t^ lives at considerableDistance from meeting and have thoughts in time to be better accommodated than constantly to assemble with us, and we being Desirous to exercise all Christian Regard and kindness to them, Votes first, That all those persons that lives above or to the Westward of Capt. Jonathan Currier's that have a mind to go off and be a Parish shall have their extraordinary charges that they are now at among us paid back again to them:—that is to say, All their part of ye extraordinary charge that shall arise to them by finishing ye meeting house, setteling a minister and building for him, when they shall be thought capable by lawfull authority to maintain the Gospel of Christ among them, Provided they do not molest or hinder us of ye other part in our speedy setteling a Gospel minister among us, and y^t^ they pay toward his support while they are of us or belong to us, hoping at the same time, they will of their owe free will be assisting to us.

2^ly^ Voted, That we will make no opposition to them in their Indeav-

ours to be a Reg'lar town or parrish whenever they shall be thought capable by lawfull authority—voted in ye affirmative.

A true Coppy—

Attest, Reuben Dimond, Town Clerk.

Now after this Vote was offered to our Dessenting brethren we chose a Committee to go to ye Association meeting of ye Revd Ministers at ye Rev. Mr. Coffin's in Kingston to ask advice, How we should proceed in Reg'lar way to settel a Gospel minister among us, and there appear'd two of our Dissenting brethren and Declared that they would not joyne with us in setteling a minister for they s^d that vote was only a sham for we knew that they could not make a parrish; but they said that we should have put into ye vote y^t when they and their neighbours could make a Parrish;—whereas we drew ye vote according to their petition, and they never ask us to set them off to joyne with their neighbours for there is no such a word in their petition as their neighbours.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of South Hampton, November ye 26, 1742, John Flanders was chosen moderator for ye same meeting. At ye same meeting it was taken into consideration, that Whereas we ye Inhabitants of this Town being in present want of a pious, larned orthodox minister of a good conversation, to dispense ye word and Administer ye ordinances of our Lord Jesus among us, and it being our Duty to look up to Heaven for Divine Assistance to guide us in all our affairs, therefore, Voted, That Thursday ye 21^t day of December next is appointed to be a day of Fasting and Prayer in order for ye calling & setteling a Gospel minister among us, voted and past in ye affirmative. Nathaniel Ash, Jonathan Farren, James George Daniel Goodwin, Jacob Colby, Saml Goodwin, John Eliot, David Goodwin, Philip Challis, David Colby, enters their contrary Dessents against ye Vote for ye fast which was for calling and setteling a Gospel minister among us.

A true Copy of ye vote and all ye dissenters that live above or to ye westward of Powers River.

Attest—Reuben Dimond, Town Cler.

At the same meeting Capt. Jonathan Currier and Joseph French jun. was chosen a Committee to call in ye Assistance of ye neighbouring ministers to cellebrate a day of Fasting and prayer among us—Voted & past in ye affirmative.

A true copy,

Reuben Dimond, Town Clerk.

Now when ye Rev. Ministers was come, which we called to our assistance, our Desenting brethren appeared and opposed them and beat off ye forenoon exercise, yet notwithstanding all their oppositions and Alegations the Rev. Ministers Did not see but ye way was clear to proceed to ye worship of ye day where unto they were call'd.

At a legal meeting of ye Inhabitants of ye Town of South Hampton, December 27, 1742, John Flanders was chosen Moderator ye Same meeting. At ye same meeting it was Voted, That we give ye Rev^d Mr. William Parsons a call to settel in ye work of ye Gospel ministry among us. Voted in ye affirmative. At ye same meeting, James George, Jon-

athan Farren, Aaron Currier, David Goodwin, David Colby, Daniel Goodwin, Zacheus Colby, Philip Challis, Jonathan Wotson, Sam[l] Goodwin, Rogles Colby, Roger Easman, Jacob Colby, Robart Martain, Micah Hoyt, Enters their contrary Desents against y[e] Vote for calling and setteling the Rev. Mr. William Parsons or any other man in y[e] work of y[e] Ministry under their present curcomstances. A true Copy of y[e] vote and all y[e] Dessenters that lives above or to y[e] westward of Powers River.

Attest, Reuben Dimond, Town Clerk.

At y[e] same meeting it was Voted that y[e] 23[d] Day of February next is appointed to be a day of ordination among us & at y[e] same meeting Joseph French, John Ordaway, Thomas Merril and Abraham Brown were chosen a Committee to send Letters to y[e] Rev. Ministers and Messengers to be assistant in gathering a Church and in ordaining the Rev. Mr. William Parsons in y[e] work of y[e] ministry among us. Voted in the affirmative.

A true Copey. Attest, Reuben Dimond, Town clerk

Now y[e] ministers we calld to our assistance were the Rev. Mr. Chusing, Mr. Whipple, Mr. Joseph Parsons, Mr. Sam[l] Parsons, Mr. Fogg, Mr. Coffin, Mr. Webster: These wear chosen a Council to carrey on y[e] work of the ordination among us, and to set y[e] day before y[e] ordination, and so we notified our Dissenting brethren to come at y[e] time appointed and shew Reasons if any they had why y[e] minister should not be ordained; but before y[e] time appointed came, we heard that our Dissenting brethren had made Report that they intended to take of our Council, for some were akind to y[e] man that was to be ordain'd and others had given judgment before: So we, hearing of their Stratagems and not being ignorant of their Devices, we considere[d] it was easier to prevent a Diseas than to cure it, or to keep an adversary out when out, then git him out when he was in, and so being forewarnd we thought it best to be forearm'd and so we calld y[e] town together to chuse other ministers.

At a meeting of y[e] Inhabitants of y[e] town of South Hampton, Jan[ry] y[e] 15th 1742–3, Joseph French was chosen Moderator. At y[e] same meeting it was put to vote wheither the Town would chuse the Rev. Mr. Odlin and the Rev. Mr. Gookin and their messengers to be assistant in Council with y[e] other Ministers for gathering a Church and carry on y[e] ordination among us, and y[e] vote was past in the affirmative.

A true copy. Attest, Reuben Dimond, Town Clerk.

We voted that we would pay back again all their part of y[e] extraordinary charges that should arise to them by finishing y[e] Meeting house, setteling a minister and building for him when they should be thought capable to maintain y[e] Gospel of Christ among them: but then there was a condition annext to that vote: it was provided they did not molest or hinder us in our speedy setteling a Gospel minister among us; but now they have opposed us from place to place, and from time to time they have entered their contrary desents once and agen

against our Regular proceedings in an orderly way to settel a Gospel minister among us, and then put us to a great deal of trouble and to an extraordinary charge in calling in that Grand Council which set at ye time appointed, and the Rev. Mr. Caleb Chusing (1) was moderator, and our Desenting brethren appeared in Council and objected against some of ye Council; and ye moderator ask them who they were and they said Mr. Joseph Parsons, Mr. Samuel Parsons and Mr. Fogg: the Moderator ask them what they had against them men; they s^d^ they wear akend; and ye Moderator ask them what they had against ye man that was to be ordained as to his life and conversation or his Doctrin, and they eledge nothing; but they said ye Province line would be moved and then they should lose the money that they had expended with us, and they had not a convenient way: The Moderator told them as to ye removing ye line that could be no bar as to setteling ye minister, for if ye lines should be moved then we must petition ye Massachusetts Court for a Parrish, and as to a way, their law provids how they should get high ways; so notwithstanding all ye objections and allegations they could make the Rev. Council did not see but ye way was clear to settel a minister among us.

All these molestations, interruptions and oppositions we have met with from our Desenting brethren since we offerd them that vote; yet now they would skreen themselves under that vote, that we are willing they should go off when they have never fullfilld ye conditions of ye vote in any one article; for if our Desenting brethren had agreed with us, we should have had none occasion to have been at so much trouble and at such an extraordinary charge in sending from town to town and from one Parish to another about ye country to call in that Grand Council, for two or three of ye neighbouring ministers would have done our business in ye morning before ye ordination.

South Hampton
March ye 29, 1745.

Daniel Brown
Nathanel Morrill
Daniel Carter
Abner Morrill
Henry French
Joseph Jewit ?
Joseph Gould
Josiah Flanders
Joseph Jones
Samuel Morrill
Ephraim Brown
Elijah Rowell
John Ordway
Reuben Dimond
Joseph Chandler
Samuel Straw
Ephraim Carter
Nathan Gould
Samuel Barnard
Elezer French
Joshua Clow
Jonathan Jewet
Jonathan Flanders
Joseph French
Samuel French
Henry Currier

(1) Probably this was Rev. Caleb *Cushing*.

Daniel French	Ezekiel Hoyt
Joseph Morrill	Ephraim Carter
Richard Fitts	Orlando Weed ?
Moses Richason	Paul Morrill

Petition in relation to a high-way.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampsheir in New England, and to the Honourable his Majesties Council And to the Gentlemen of the House of Representatives in General Court assembled:

The Petition of the Town of South Hampton humbly *sheweth*:—

That the Town finding thare was Occasion of a highway from the Meeting-house Southward to a highway which was laid out by Alms bury, accordingly Voted a way should be laid out on the East side of the Parsonage unto Powes River, and throw sundry mens Land unto the said high-way, and the selectmen being met to lay out s[d] way and finding a more convenient way might be had else where made Request to the Town, who Voted, That the former Vote should be reconsidered, and a high way should be laid out across the Parsonage and over the River whare it dos meet the high way which was laid out by Almsbury Direct, and thare it is laid out and Recorded.

Notwithstanding this way is moste for the common good, thare are sum persons who are uneasy because the way first Voted is not laid out and have applyed themselves to the General Sessions of the Peace who have ordered a Committee to lay that way out also; which if Don the Town must make and maintain two ways and two bridges within about twenty five or thirty Rods which will be a very great and useless charge.

Therefore your Petitioners do most humbly apply to this Honourable Court and Pray that a Committee may be appointed to view those ways and to judg which will accommodate moste people and is best for the Towns use in general that it may be established and the other prevented: So shall we as in duty bound ever Pray &c.

South Hampton, April the 8, 1746.

JOHN PAIGE, Agent,
for South Hampton.

In Council, May 6th 1746.
Read and sent down to the House
Theod[r] Atkinson, Sec[y].

[NOTE. A hearing was had on the foregoing petition, when—]

In the House of Representatives, May 13, 1746, Voted, that the within Petition be dismissed.

D. Pierce, Clk.

Petition relating to a Province Tax.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Capt. General And Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable his Majesties Council, and to the Gent^l men of the House of Representatives in General Court assembled:

The Petition of the Select men of South Hampton, humbly *sheweth:*

That whereas George Jaffrey, Gent. Treasurer and Receiver General for his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, did in the year past send a Precept to the Select men of South Hampton to Raise the sum of Ninety seven Pounds and ten shillings in bills of Credit Emitted by virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of said Province passed April ye 11th 1755, Entituled an Act for granting unto his most excellent Majesty the sum of thirty thousand pounds for and towards building a Fort near Crown Pint, and the Select men in the year past omitted the Raising the Sum of Ninety seven pounds and ten shillings which was set Down in the preceipt, by Reason of an oversight or miss under standing, and we the Select men of South Hampton for the present year. Do therefore humbly apply ourselves to this Honourable Court and pray that this Honourable Court would be pleased in your great wisdom and goodness to compassionate our Difficult case and pass an Act to impower and authorize us the present select men to assess the Polls and Estates within said South Hampton lyable to be tax^d by Law, and give us a Reasonable time to do it in, so shall we as in Duty bound ever pray, &c.

RICH^d COLLINS } Selectmen for
BENJ. BROWN } South Hampton.

Dated March the 21 Day, 1757.

Prov. New Hamp^r
In Council March 23^d 1757.
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^bl House.
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y.

Province of New Hamp^r } In the House of Representatives, March 23, 1757. This Petition being read
Voted, That the Prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.
Andrew Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council, March 23^d, 1757.
Read & concurrd.
Theo. Atkinson, Sec.

Petition from sundry inhabitants of South Hampton to be annexed to Newtown.

Province of New Hamp^{r} } South Hampton, July 14, 1768.

To his Excellency the Governor, the honorable his Majesties Council & House of Representatives for the Province aforesaid in General Court Assembled:

We subscribers Inhabitants of South Hampton do humbly request that we and our Estates may be annexed to Newtown for the Reasons following, viz.

We were originally of the Almsbury District which is now called Newtown:

We can attend public worship there with more ease, the way to it being much better & the place of worship nearer; some of us live within half a mile of Newtown Meeting House & four Miles from our own.

The most of us do constantly attend public worship at Newtown and enjoy special religious privileges there but are denied the satisfaction of paying our money where we have our favors, and to those to whom it seems of right due, and the mortification of paying it to such as do us no good.

We are ill accommodated in regard to schooling for our children. Newtown School we have no right to: South Hampton is so distant that we cannot send to it; indeed Southhampton hath in some instances left our proportion of the School money to our own disposal, but the sum is so small that it will not maintain a School long enough to be of any considerable benefit, & even while it does support a school among us we live so scattered & at such a distance from one another that the School cannot be so placed as to well accommodate us all at once.

Our condition is really in our account Very unhappy;—we therefore humbly beg that your Excellency & Honors would take it under your consideration and grant such relief as in your wisdom you shall think proper.

Jonathan Currier, 1 M. north.	Nathan Currier
Samuel Kimball	Charles Coolens
Phillip Currier	James Currier
Challis Currier	Aaron Sargent, sou. 1-2 mile.
Thomas Currier	Sarah Currier

Province of New Hamp^{r} } In the House of Representatives Jany 12th 1770

The within Petition being read & considered

Voted, That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on Thursday the twenty-fifth Day of January instant, if the General Assembly be then sitting, and if not then on the second day of their sitting next after, and that the Petitioners at their own cost serve the Selectmen of

South Hampton with a Copy of this Petition & order that they may shew cause why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

M. Weare, Clk.

In Council, Jany 12, 1770.
Read & concurred.

Geo. King, D. Sec^{y}.

Province of New Hamp^{sr} } In the House of Representatives March 22^{d} 1770.

The Parties being heard on this Petition and the Petitioners requesting that a Committee may be appointed to view the circumstances of the Petitioners at the cost of the s^{d} Petitioners:

Voted, That Capt. John Giddings & Doctor Ebenezer Thompson be a Committee of this House to join with such as the Hon^{bl} Council shall appoint to make enquiry respecting the circumstances of the Petitioners and make report to the General Assembly as soon as may be—the cost of the Committee to be paid by the Petitioners.

M. Weare, Clk.

In Council, March 23^{d} 1770.
Read & concurred & the Hon^{bl} Daniel Pierce Esqr added on part of the Board.

Geo. King, D. Sec^{y}.

Pursuant to the foregoing appointment we the Subscribers have view'd the situation of the Petitioners, heard & consider'd what the Parties concern'd thought fit to offer relative to the Premises:

And although we think that some of the Petitioners might be better accommodated by being annexed to Newtown, yet really think their difficulties not greater than what usually happens in almost every town: And their being so annexed would (as we conceive) increase the difficulties occasioned by the former liberty of Polling in said Towns, which we now think need redress: Therefore we beg leave to recommend the dismissing said Petition. Witness our hands at Portsmouth the 21st of December, 1770.

D. Peirce
John Giddinge
Eben^{r} Thompson.

In Council, Dec. 21st 1770.
In pursuance of the above report it is ordered that this Petition be dismissed.

Geo. King, D. Sec^{y}.

Petition for settling the line between South Hampton and Newtown.

Province of New Hamps^{hr} } To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esqr Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire, the Honourable his Majesty's Council and house of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

The Petition of us the Subscribers being a Committee chosen for the Town of South Hampton, Most humbly *sheweth*:—

That the said Town of South Hampton suffer great incon-

veniences for want of a Line settled and established, between the said Town of South Hampton and the Town of New Town, there being more than Twenty persons in said South Hampton, which claim to belong to Newtown, part of whom might be as well accommodated by being joyned to South Hampton, and a number more of South Hampton that might be as well accommodated by being joyned to Newtown. Your petitioners therefore pray a Line may be settled between the said Towns in such a manner as not to enlarge the one at the expense of the other, but to make both equal to which they now are, and that a Committee may be appointed to inquire into the circumstances of the case and Report such a Line as may effect the purposes aforesaid: and your Petitioners as they are in Duty bound will ever pray, &c.

PHILIPS WHITE
ABEL BROWN
MOSES FRENCH

South Hampton, Decem^{r}
19th 1770.

Province of } In the house of Representatives
New Hamp^{r} } Dec. 30, 1770.

Voted, That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition, on Thursday the third day of January next, if the General Assembly be then siting; and if not then on the third day of their siting next after: And that the Petitioners serve the Selectmen of Newtown with a copy of this Petition and order of court that they may shew cause why the Prayer of the Petition should not be granted.

M. Weare, Clk.

In Council, eodem die.
Read & concurred.
Geo King, D. Sec^{y}.

Province of } In the House of Representatives
New Hamps^{r} } Jany 3^{d} 1771.

The within Petition being considered and the Parties heard thereon, and consenting that Daniel Pierce Esqr Capt. John Giddinge and Doct^{r} Ebenezer Thompson be a Committee to settle the line between the said Towns in such place as shall appear to them proper, after hearing both parties, said Com'tee also to Determin by whom the cost of the Com'tee be paid:—

Voted, That the said Daniel Pierce, Esqr Capt. John Giddinge and Doct^{r} Ebenezer Thompson be a committee for the purpose abovementioned.

M. Weare, Clk.

In Council, eodem die.
Read and concur'd
Geo. King, D. Sec^{y}

STRATHAM.

[Stratham was originally a part of the Squamscott Patent, and was laid off from Exeter, and incorporated as a distinct town, March 14, 1716. Ed.]

Petition for a Township.

To the Honourable the Lef[t] Governour, Councill and Representatives conven'd in Generall Assembly:

We the subscribers hereof inhabiting in and about Swamscott, not lying in any Township and living att a considerable Distance from the publique worship of God, not haveing the benefitt of instructing our youth, besides many other great inconveniences which we labour under, Being now by the Providence of God att peace in our severall Dwellings and being no less than thirty five familys all well disposed to maintaine the publique ministry and defraying of all other necessary charges to the best of our abilities, and hopeing that within a little time we shall increase to a far more considerable number, Doe most humbly pray that your Honours would please to settle and confirm us the severall Inhabitants extending from Wheelwright's Creek downwards to Sandy-Point as a distinct Township of ourselves, Impowering all such officers among us as your Honours in your great wisdome and prudence shall judge most meet: We crave leave to subscribe your Honours most humble and most obedient servants.

Andrew Wiggin, sen[r]
Isaac Cole
Simon Wiggin
Andrew Wiggin, jun.
Thomas Vesy
Bradstreet Wiggin
William French
Nathaniell Wright
Jonathan Wiggin
Thomas Read
Tho. Wiggin
William Moores Sen[r]
William Moore, jun[r]
Oen Renels, his mark ↄ
George Vasay
Richard Downes ?
Thomas ——— ?
Jonathan Norris
Mark Stacey
Richard Mongen Sen. R. mark
James Rundlet
Charles Rundlet
Sam[l] Leavett, sen[r]
Sam[l] Leavitt, jun
Ed[n] Gramon X mark
Stephen England
Edward Masry Z mark
Thomas Spild, sen X mark
Richard Mongen, O mark

Petition for a Township.

To the Hon[ble] Geo: Vaughan, Esq. Lt. Gov[r] & Commander in Chief of his Majesties Province of N. Hamp[r] & to his Majesties Council of y[e] Prov: aforesaid:

The Petition of his Maj[tles] good subjects sundry the Inhabitants of y[e] town of Exeter: Most humbly *shewith*:—

The great hardships & Inconveniences which we (y^r Hon^rs Petitioners) are made the subjects of by a late order from the Honble Board:—(viz.)—y^t all ye Inhabitants of Exeter to ye eastw^d of west creek line should be joyned to ye Parish of Greenland, in answer to a petition presented by Mr. Josh: Weeks subscribed by sundry the inhabitants of the town of Exeter afores^d, praying to be added to ye s^d Parish of Greenland, for that we ye subscribers who are on ye east side of s^d line never had any knowledge of s^d Petition till after 'twas p'sented & then not seasonably enough to counter Petition before ye ord^r

May it Please y^r Hon^rs:

We have once & again Petitioned to be made a township: y^t is, ye Inhabitants of Swampscutt Patent w^rof we are some and Intend one address more to y^r Hon^rs on the same head, tho' were that nothing at all we cannot but represent to yor Hon^rs the g^t hardship we labour under on acc^t of ye ord^r afores^d inasmuch as there is a maj^r numb^r y^t never knew of s^d Petition (that are joyned to ye Parish of Greenland by ye ord^r made upon it) than those that signed it. Whereupon we cannot but humbly pray for a Counter Ord^r to the Order afores^d at least for so long a time as till both p'titions may have a hearing wch will be a plain means to a final determination of the matter. However all is submitted to yor Hon^rs by yor Hon^rs most obed^t serv^ts

ANDREW WIGGIN
THOMAS WIGGIN
JONATHAN WIGGIN
WILL^m FRENCH.

Jany 4th 1715–16.

Petition to be set off into a township.

To his Honour George Vahan Esqr Lieu^t Governour and commander in cheif in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, & to his Majesties honoured Counsell for s^d Province:

We the Inhabitance of Quamescuk patent, humbly *sheweth:* —The very bad circumstances we lay under by reason of our great distance from the publick Worship of God and haveing no benifitt of any School, notwithstanding we have ever paid our proportion to the School of Exeter, and are now by the Providence of God increased to shuch a number as we hope we are able of ourselves to maintain a Minister & a school & other town charges as shall nessesarily fall upon us, with our

proportion of publick assessments: Therefore we your petitioners does humbly pray that your Honours would pleas to set us of from all other Towns and Parishes and grant us a Township by ourselves & bound us as followeth: viz. Beginning at Sandey Point bounding upon Exeter river untill it comes into Wheelwrights Creeks mouth & from thence upon a southeast line three miles into the land; from s[d] Sandey point to run three miles into y[e] land upon a southeast line with an head line according to y[e] s[d] Patent, which will be greatly to the joy & sattisfaction of your petitioners whose names are under writen.

We your Petitioners does further humbly beg leave to inform yours honors of our ill convenences, being laid some times to one town & some times to another & all wayes a great distance from the Publick worship of God; with submission we would pray your honors to consider which is most reason—Whether those men which lay near Greenland should joyn with us your petitioners, or all we availl to them: We submitt to your honors pleasure.

Dated this tenth day of January Inst. $17\frac{15}{16}$

Simon Wiggin
Andrew Wiggin
Thomas Vezey
William French
Jonathan Wigens
Moses Leavitt juner
Richard Calley
Stephen England
John Haniford
William Powell
Owen Runals, senor
Owen Runalls, juner
James Palmer
Edward Maservy
Benjamin Palmer
Moses Rallins
Aaron Rallins
James Robison
Sam[ll] Green
Edward Fifield
Thomas Rallins
David Robison
Joseph Rallins
Arthur Benitt
Joseph Hoitt
John Mead
Matthew Tomson
William More
George Veasey
Thomas Wigins sen[r]
Thomas Wigens, jun[r]
John Wigens
Daniel Moody
John Mason
John Searll
James Keniston
Richard Crockett
John Satchell
John Sinkler
Joseph Mason
Samuel Piper
Gilles Brier
Thomas Toms
John Pett
Thomas Brier
William Seamen
Satchell Rundlett
Jonathan Clark
Nathaniel Folsom
Richard Morgan
Nathaniel Stevens
ohn Robarts
James Dorety
Daniel Leavitt
Abraham Stockbridge
John Jones
Widow Leavitt
Israel Smith
Benj[a] Leavitt.

Counter Petition.

To ye honorable George Vaighan Esqr Left. Governor and Comander of his Maigistys province of new hampshar and the honorable Counsell now sitting at Porchmouth.

The petition of us whose names are under written, humbly *sheweth:*

That wheras your petitioners air informed that your honors intend to incorporate that tract of land called the Pattente into a township within the precintes of which your petitioners now dwells, we your petitioners have ever been of opinion and now are well assured that the peopell inhabiting within ye Limits above s^d^ are not capiable of supporting such a townd charg as will be needful, neaither did we ever send away such petition, naither dare we presum so to do unless we should desire the ruining of our familys by Removing off from thes small tracts of land we are now settiled upon, we therefore pray your honnors that we may continue as we are untill beter inabled to perform such a charg, lest men mock us and saye, These men have laid a foundation before they have considered they ware not able to finish it; and we your petishors that have never consented to petition to be a townd shall ever pray whilst——

James Sinkler
Benjiman Gones
James Rundlit
Jonathan Norris
Ithiall Smith
Joseph Larans
Phillip Spendelow
Thomas Sped
John Clark
Ephreham Levitt
Abraham Stockbrig
John Speed
Daniel Smith
Jethrow Parson
Ebenezer Foulsham
Beanjaman Taylor
Samweall Leavitt

And we your honors petitioners whos names are under written who un advisedly and without consideration sined the petishon that a township mite be granted, haveing since beter considered of that matter are sensible of our unadvisedness and inabillity to perform such a charg as must of nessessity follow upon our being a township unless we impoverish our familys and frely now goine with the first above subscribed petitioners: And that we may not be a township for the afor s^d^ Resons but may continue as we are now settled untill beter Inabled to bare such a charge and your petitioners shall ever acknowledge your honors fafore herein—and subscribe our selves your honors dutifull and obedient servants.

Isrell Smith
Joseph Hoyt
Benjamin Levit
Matthew Tompson
Sachill Rundlit
Nathaniel Foulsham
Benjamin Palmer
Mary Levitt—widow

Jan. 14th 1715-6.

Petition of Selectmen in relation to a meeting house.

Stratham May the 16, 1716.

To his Honor George Vahn esquire Lef^t Governer and comander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New hampshaire in New England and to his Majesties honourable Councill for said Province:

We your humble petitioners Selectmen for the town of Stratham: We are sorry that we are forced to trouble your honors with a petition;—for the inhabitants of our town are unhappily divided about a place where to set our meeting house and we have had severall town meetings in hops to agree among ourselves but all the proposalls that has been made could never obtain that happy end and for these reasons we would pray your honors that in your wisdom you would see meet to appoint a Committee of indifferent men that are unconcerned for to measure the town and so fix a place for the meeting house according to the patine. So we are your honours humble petitioners in behalf of the town.

SIMON WIGGIN
JONATHAN WIGGIN
WILL^m FRENCH,
Selectmen.

Petition of Jonathan Wiggin, relating to Hilton's Ferry.

To his Excellency Saml Shute, Esqr Captain Genl Govern^r & Command^r in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamp^r &c. To the Honourable the Council & Representatives convened in Genl Assembly in Portsm^o in s^d Province.

The Petition of Jonathan Wiggin of the town of Stratham, most humbly *Sheweth:*

That Capt. Richd Hilton of Exeter was formerly favored by the Genl Assembly in this his Majesties Province with a Grant of the Ferry over Exeter river, which Grant was attended with a particular condition that he should procure a way to the Ferry, so that the Publick should not be charged therewith; but tho' he has had the improvement of the Ferry for the space of near Thirty years yet never procured any way thereto on the southerly side of the s^d river, but all Travellers have trespassed on yor Petitioner by passing over his pasture, meadows and fields, for the space of one full mile in one part of his farm & almost halfe a mile in another part thereof, extremely to yor Petitioner's damage, who cannot obtain any redress from the s^d Hilton, altho' his Grant is thereby forfeited to the Government.

And the afores^d Capt. Hilton doth live at so great a distance

from the river that Travellers are oftentimes hindred in getting over and necessitated to burden your Petitioner with themselves and horses for entertainment in the night, which is expensive to yo[r] Petitioner and an hindrance to them in their journey, many of whom have often times put your Petitioner upon praying for the Ferry on that side of the river adjoining to his land. And if your Petitioner should stop up the afore s[d] ways, Travellers would be extremely prejudiced.

Your Petitioner therefore most humbly prays that your Excellency and this Honourable Assembly will please to grant to him the privilege of the Ferry on the southerly side of the s[d] River, with the liberty of Keeping or hanging Gates through his own farm & the liberty of the Ferryman keeping an house of entertainment for Travellers free of Excise: So yo[r] Petitioner shall ever pray as in duty bound &c. & subscribes,

JONATHAN WIGGIN.

22[d] April 1721.

Summons to Richard Hilton.

Pro. N. Hamp[r]

To the Sheriff of the said Province, his under Sheriff or Deputy, Greeting:

By order of his Hon[r] the Lieut. Governour, and the Hon[ble] the Council, you are hereby required in his Majesty's name, forthwith on receipt hereof, to Summon Rich[d] Hilton of Exeter Esq. to appear at y[e] Council board to morrow at 3 o'clock afternoon, to show cause if any he hath, why the ferry on the South side of Exeter river ag[st] your house should not be granted to Mr. Jon[a] Wiggin of Stratham, according to his petition, &c. Dated at y[e] Council board y[e] 11th of July, 1721.

Richard Waldron, Cler. Con.

Make return of this writ, at y[e] time afores[d]

R. Waldron, Cl. Con.

July 12, 1721. Then summoned Capt. Richard Hilton, Esq. to appear at time & place, by me

Benj. Leavitt, Dep. Sheriff.

Petition of Stratham relating to divisions about a Minister.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq[r] Captain Generall Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire; To the Hon[ble] his Majesty's Councill and house of Representatives convened in General Assembly.

The Petition of the subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Stratham in the Province aforesaid, Humbly *shews:*

That your Petitioners having for some years past been under very Difficult circumstances both as to their Church and Town

affairs occasioned by the unhappy and unscriptural separation of a great number of the Principal members of the Church who by their example have influenced others of the Church and Congregation to follow them into the same separation and thereby have made themselves the major parte and have for some time past carry'd on the Publick worship in a separate house and are got to such a height as to call a Town meeting to choose a Committee to Apply to Mr. Joseph Adams their present minister to take on him the pastoral care & charge of a Church in said Town, and to cast himself on the Lord and Depend on him for what he shall Incline the People to give him for his support, which your Petitioners expect will be liberal enough inasmuch as we must bear our part of it unless relieved herein by your Excellency & Hon^{rs}; And inasmuch as their separations and proceedings thereon is so unjust and unwarrantable and we have just reason to fear willfull, and our circumstances will not admit us without impoverishing our Estates to maintain more than Mr. Rust our present ordained Minister (with whose doctrine and conduct we are well satisfi'd) who was principally call'd and settled by the Principal Gentlemen in the present separation, who then made a great show of Respect for him and his Ministry; and inasmuch as this unhappy separation and proceeding thereon greatly tends to an unnatural Behaviour towards each other, and to root out our Holy Religion, and also to Destroy that Love, Peace and Unity that ought to be kept and maintained amongst us as the Professors of Christ, as also to the Destruction or wasting of our Estates: Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray that your Excellency and hon^{rs} will take our Deplorable case under your wise consideration, and redress our present Grievances in such way as to your Excellency and hon^{rs} shall seem most for the glory of God and Real wellfare of this Place.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Dated at Stratham, August 12th 1746.

William French	David Jewill
Thomas Wiggin	Samuel Piper
Jonan Dearbun	Samuel Piper, jun.
Edward Fifeald	Nathaniel White
Thomas Wrolings	Thomas Wiggin, jun
Isac Foss	Josiah Parsons
Walter Wiggin	Samuel Wiggin
John Speed	Eliphalet Wiggin
Benjamin Jones	Benjamin Cotton.
Richard Palmer	John Stockbridg
Richard Scamun	Thomas More
William French, jun.	Ebenezer Foulsum
Thomas French	Thomas Reonals
Bradstreet French	Owen Reonals
Joseph Mason	Edward Mason
Richard Wichar	Benjamin Mason

Thomas Veasai
Joseph Jewit
Caleb Rowlings
Joseph Lawrance
Benjamin Tailer
Joseph Hoit
Jonathan Chase
Benjamin Palmer
Josiah Smith
Abraham Morgin
Tuftin Wiggin
William Corly
John Brackett
Jonathan Jones
Matthew Tomson
Satchell Clark
Joseph Fifeald

John Dearbun
David Robinson
Ephraim Green
Jeames Kenison
Andrew French
John Wiggin
John Wiggin jun.
William Burly
Richard Crokit
Thomas Foss
Isac Foss, jun
John Avery.
Moses Kennison
Solomon Cotton
David Haneford
Richard Crocket, jun.

Province of N. Hamp^{r} } In the House of Representatives, Augt 22^{d} 1746.

Voted, That ye Petitioners be heard on their petition ye second day of the Setting of ye Genl Assembly after ye fifteenth Day of Sep^{t} next at ten O'clock A. M. & that ye Petitioners at their own cost serve ye Selectmen of Stratham with a copy of this Petition & this order of Court, that they may shew cause if any they have why ye Prayer of the Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce, Clk.

In Council, Eod^{m} die
read & concurr^{d}.
Theod^{r} Atkinson, Sec^{y}.

Eod^{m} die. Assented to
B. WENTWORTH.

Another petition relating to the same matter.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq. Capt. Genl Govern^{r} & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of N: Hampsher, To the Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives conven'd in Genl Assembly:

The Petition of ye subscribers & Inhabitants of the Town of Streatham In the Province aforesaid, Humbly *shows:* Y^{t} your Petitioners, &c.

[NOTE.—This Petition is word for word the same as the preceding, until the closing sentence, which is in the following words, viz.]

"Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray y^{t} your Excellency & Hon^{rs} would take our deplorable case under your wise consideration & bear due testimony against such Disorderly settlements, or exempt us & our Posterity from supporting s^{d} Joseph Adams, or from any charge y^{t} shall arise in any shape whatsoever from his being a Preacher among them:

However, we, ye s^d^ Petition^rs^ leave our case with y^r^ Excellency & Hon^rs^ humbly praying y^t^ you'd please to redress our present Grievances in such a way as to your Excellency & Hon^rs^ shall seem most for the glory of God, & the real welfare of this place, & y^r^ Petition^rs^ in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c."

Dated at Streatham, Decr 2^d^ 1746.

[NOTE.—The above petition is signed by the same persons as the former one. A hearing on it was granted; and then, in the House of Representatives, 15 July, 1747, is the record: "The agents for ye Petitioners appearing & acknowledging that they were satisfied, therefore voted, That this Petition be Dismissed."]

SWANZEY.

[This town, which was first called *Lower Ashuelot*, was granted by New Hampshire, July 2^d^ 1753. ED.]

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Capt. General, Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and the Hon^bl^e his Majesty's Council for said Province:

The Humble Petition of William Sims of Winchester so called in the Province of New Hampshire on behalf of the Proprietors or claimers of that Tract of Land within said Province called the *Lower Ashuvelot*, a List of whose names is herewith presented, *Shews*,

That the said proprietors or claimers have been improving the land at the place aforesaid near Eighteen years last past & have made considerable progress therein: Apprehending when they first entered the Land was within the Province of ye Massachusetts Bay, and by countenance of the Government of that Province they entered upon the Lands & carried on their settlement so far as to make a Proportion & Division of said Lands to & among the Persons aforesaid, who have been at very considerable expence in making the said settlement and Defending of it.

That in order to carrying of it to greater Perfection & making of it a more useful Place it is necessary the settlers & Inhabitants should be Incorporated & vested with the Rights & Privileges of Towns which it is well known is a very necessary aid & support of such a Design, and as the persons already there have done so much to make it a useful settle-

ment they seem to have a claim to your Excellency's favour in this respect preferable to any others: Wherefore your Petitioner Humbly prays as aforesaid that your Excellency would be pleased to make a Grant of the s[l] Lands to the Persons afores[d] in Proportion & according to their Respective claims & the Proportion & Division made as aforesaid, and that the same may be incorporated by the Name of Swansey & Intitled to the Rights and Privileges of other Towns in said Province of New Hampshire, and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Wm. Symes.

Portsmouth, June y[e] 27th 1753.

Nath[l] Hammond
Abraham Graves
William Grimes
Benjamin Grant
Thomas Crison
Thomas Crison, jun.
William Hill
William Crison
William Car
Elijah Graves
Samuel Belding
Eliakim King
Jonathan Woodcock
Joshua Graves
Abner Graves
David Belding
Timothy Brown
James Heaton
James Heaton, jun.
William Heaton
Sam[l] Hills
Nath[l] Hills
Jonathan Woodcock, jun.
Jonathan Hammond
Thomas Nuten
Ebenezer Hills
John Prat
Timothy Prat
Sam[l] Prat
Joseph Hammond
Thomas Hammond
Seth Gay
Asa Grant
Christopher Grant
Daniel Arms
Ebenezer Arms
Nath[l] Gun
Wiget Gun
Daniel Gun
Ebenezer Sprag
Ebenezer Sprag, jun
Joseph Marchants
Noah Bodman
Ben[n] Sheldin
Mark Ferry
Jonathan Frarey
John Frarey
Phinehas Frarey
Jonathan Armes
Jonathan Bordwel
Oliver Wit
Oliver Hammond
Joshua Prime
Joseph Write
Ben[n] Brown
Simon Davis
Saml MacClennen
Zebulon Balord
Stephen Nuten
Cæsar Freeman
Saml Gaylord
James Blood, jun.

62.

TAUNTON.

Petition relating to No. One or Taunton town (1) *on the West Side of Connecticut river*, 1751.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Govr in & over said Province and to the Honble his Majesties Council within the same:

The Petition of the subscribers humbly *sheweth:* That your Petitioners or most of us owned under a grant of the Massachusetts each of us one Right or share in a Township on the West side of Connecticut River commonly called & known by ye Name of *No. One* or *Taunton Town*, on ye west side of said River, but since the Running of the Line between ye Provinces it lyeth in ye Province of New Hampshire; and are desirous of making a speedy and effectual settlement there: — Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray, that your Excelency & Honnours would be pleased to grant to each of us a Right in s^{d} Township upon the conditions that your Excellency and Honnours grants others the King's Subjects, and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

February 7th 1751.

John Halbert
Josiah Willard
William Willard
Valentine Butler
Joseph Alexander
Nathan Willard
Susannah *Guilson?*
Oliver Willard
John Arms
Wilder Willard
John Moor
John Moor, jun.
Daniel Whittmore
William Willard, jun
Prentice Willard
Eph^{m} Dean
Elijah Cady
Asa Douglass
Samuel Ashley
John Alexander
Samuel Greele
Jethro Wheeler
Jonathan Thayer
Joshua Welds
Submit Foster
Nathan Willard, jun.
Joseph Hubbard
Joseph Ashley
Nathaniel Maloon
John Hunt
John Taylor
John Peirce
Andrew Gardner, jun
Anthony Peirce
James Jewell
Manassah Devell
Simon Hunt
William Wilson
Jonathan Hubbard
John Arms, jun
Solomon Willard
Eben^{r} Field
Saml Allen
Billy Willard
Caleb How
Jonathan Willard
James Hills
Josiah Willard, jun
Benj^{a} Farwell
Robert Usher
Samuel Cummings
Josiah Brown

(1) See MS. Town Papers, Vol. VI. pp. 385, 386, inverted. ED.

Peter Powers
John Chamberlain
Jonathan Cuming
Robert Fletcher, Jun.
John Usher
Jonathan Cummings jun
David Stearns
Timothy Latherbee
Byfield Loyd

The Governor 500 acres, 2 shares
Theodore Atkinson
John Wentworth, jun
Henry Sherburn
Richard Wibird
Sam[l] Smith
John Downing
Sampson Sheafe, &
3 Publick Lotts.

WAKEFIELD.

[Formerly called East-Town; incorporated by its present name, August 30, 1774. Ed.]

At a Proprietors meeting Leagely warned and held at the house of Capt. David Copp in East-Town so called by the proprietors of said East-Town, the 28th day of June, Anno Domini, 1774; And the proprietors at said meeting,

Voted, That this Tract or Township of Land comonly called East-Town be Incorperated, and the said proprietors at said meeting, Voted, That Capt. David Copp, Capt. James Garvin & John Gage be a Commitee or agents to wait on the Governor & Counsel to gite the said Township Incorporated.

A true Coppy— Attest,
John Gage, Pro. Clark.

Petition for Incorporation.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq[r] Capt. General, Governor and Commander in Chief of said Province and the Honourable his Majesty's Council: Humbly *shews*,

David Copp, James Garvin and John Gage that at a Proprietors Meeting held at East-Town so called on the 28th day of June last your Petitioners were Voted a Committee to Petition your Excellency and Honors for an Incorporation of said Tract or Township:

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that the said Township beginning at the North-East corner of the Township of Rochester at Newichwanick River, and from said River running westerly by the head line of Rochester five miles, and from that extent upon a strait Line parallel with the General Course of the said River as a strait line may be run at the said River & continuing the breadth of five miles adjoining said

River & bounds of the Province so far northwardly as to make equal to six Miles square in such form as that the head or northerly Boundary shall be a Line paralell with the head line of Rochester, and the westerly side Line to be strait from Rochester Line to the head Line of said Tract of Land, may be incorporated and invested with such powers & Privileges as other Towns in this his Majesty's Province usually have & enjoy; and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

DAVID COPP
JAMES GARVIN.

Portsm° 29th August, 1774.

WARNER.

[Formerly No. 1, or New Amesbury, generally written New Almsbury, was granted by the Province of Massachusetts, in 1735, but incorporated by New Hampshire, September 3d, 1774. ED.]

Petition of No. 1, or Essex Almsbury, now Warner, 1742.

To his Excelli Benning Wentworth, Esqr Govr in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New hampshire; To the honbl his Majesty's Council

The humble petition of Capt. Thomas Rowell & Joseph Jewell in the name & by order of the proprators of a Township called N° One, in the Line of Towns from Rumford to Connecticut River, Humbly *shewing:* That where-as the Province of the Massachusetts in the year 1735, granted severall Townships & laid them out from Rumford to Connecticut River, among the Rest your Petitioners for services done, obtained a Grant of a Township of six miles square: Since which time your petitioners have laid out Two Divisions of Lots & Built a Saw mill thereon & cleared considerable of their Lots & done considerable in order for settling: But so it is, that by the determination of his Majesty in Council upon the Boundary Line between the Province of the Massachusetts & New Hampshire, the said Township lieth to the Northward of the sd Boundary Line, & in the Government of New Hampshire:

Wherefore we your Excely's & Honrs most Humble Petitioners looking upon ourselves as suitable objects of favour & compassion as any of his Majesty's subjects, would therefore humbly pray your Excely & Honors to take our case into your most wise & just consideration & alow & confirm unto your most

Humble petitioners the afores[d] Town ship & give us such suitable & convenient time for bringing forward the setelment as your Excel[y] & Hon[rs] in your great wisdom shall judge most fitt & convenient: And your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

THOMAS ROWELL
JOSEPH JEWELL.

Essex Almsbury, May
the 12: 1742.

Bounds.

The Bounds of a Township, called New Almsbury, granted December 24th 1767, To Jonathan Barnard, &c. Viz.

Beginning at a place called and known by the name of Contoocook, thence running North fifteen degrees West six miles, then running from each end of this line west five degrees South six miles, then crossing and running over on a strait course from one end of these last mentioned lines, at the end of the said six miles to the other, so as to make up the Quantity of six miles square and no more

Attest, Geo. Jaffrey, Prop[s] Cler.

Meeting of Inhabitants.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of New Almsbury, so called, legaly worn'd and held at their meeting house on Tuesday y[e] 29th day of March A. D. 1774, at one of the clock in the afternoon, Voted at the above said meeting that wee should be glad to have the town incorporated.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of New Almsbury so called legaly worn'd & held at the meeting house on Monday y[e] 25 day of July A. D. 1774, at one of the clock in the afternoon, Voted at said meeting that Capt. Francis Davis should go and gitt the town incorporated.

A true Copy taken of the Society Book of Records } Attest Daniel Flanders,
Clark for said Society.

Petition for Incorporation, by Francis Davis.

Province of
New Hampshire }

To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esquire, Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire And to the Honorable his Majesty's Council:

The Petition of Francis Davis humbly shews:—That at a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Township of *New*

Almsbury on the 25th day of July last, a vote passed impowering your Petitioner to make application to your Excellency & Honors for an Incorporation of said Township.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that the said Township of New Almsbury may be incorporated by the following Bounds, viz.

"Beginning at a Place called & known by the Name of Contoocook, thence running north fifteen degrees West six miles, then running from each end of this line West five degrees South six miles, then crossing & running over on a strait course from one end of these last mentioned lines at the end of the said six miles to the other, so as to make up the Quantity of six miles square and no more."

Your petitioner begs leave to suggest to your Excellency and Honors that the said Township consists of upwards of fifty Families & settlers, that they have had a Minister settled & have paid Province taxes two years, and that their Roads are in want of repair. He therefore most humbly prays that your Excellency & Honors will grant the Prayer of this his Petition, and as in duty bound he will ever pray.

FRANCIS DAVIS.

Portsm° 3d Septem^{r} 1774.

WEARE.

[This town was incorporated September 21, 1764, and received its name in honor of Hon. Meshech Weare. ED.]

Petition of Inhabitants of Hale's Town, now Weare.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency Bening Wintworth Esqr Capt. General and Governor and comander in Chief in and over this his Majesty's Provence of New Hampshier, the Honnourable his Majesty's Counsel.

the Humble Pettition of the Inhabitants of that Tract of land known by the name of *Hails Town*, otherwise called Col° Weares Town, Humbly *shewith:*

That your Pettitioners are under grate disadvantages for want the Prviligs of other Towns in this Provence in chusinge Town officers and laying out and manding High-Ways, gitting and supporting a Minister and maney other things that are Netsetry for the good and Bennfit of the Town: Where-

for your Pettitioners Humbly pray your Excelency and Honors to in Corprate us into a Town granting us all the Prebilidgs and Immunitys of other Towns in this Provence, and your Pettitioners as in Dutey Bound shall ever pray.

Dated at Hailes Town this 3[d] day of April, 1764.

Asa Heath
Stephen George
Caleb Emory
Thomas Worthly
Nathaniel Corliss
John Mudget
Jeremiah Corlles
Javon ? Quinbe
William Hutchins
Josiah Brown
John Jewell
Jeremiah Allen
Stephen Emerson
Stephen Emerson, jr
Benony Coben
Bond Little
Jacob Jewell
Abraham Johnson
Jonathan Atwood
John Simons
William Darling.

WENTWORTH.

[Wentworth was granted Nov. 1, 1766, to John Page, Esq. and others. The paper which follows was found in a mutilated state. It appears to be a List of those who had original Rights in the Township of Wentworth and made improvements thereon. See MS. Vol. VI. p. 393. Ed.]

* * * Those original Rights in the Township of Wentworth * * * is improvement made on, viz.

Rev[d] Mr. Webster.
——— Page owned by the Rev[d] Mr. M[c]Clintock
——— March, owned by the Rev[d] Mr. Noble.

——am Parker Esq.
——athan Bachel——
Elijah True
Eliphalet Coffin
David Greeley
Stephen Edmands
William Hacket
} Owned by Wm. Hacket & Joseph Page.

Jacob Bayley Esq.
Parker Cooper
Samuel Palmer
John Colman
Phillips White
Capt. Nathaniel Bachelder
Peter Russell
Joseph Eastman
John White
Wm. White
Daniel Fogg
Henry Merrill
Isaac Brown &
Capt. Thomas Elkins
} Owned by Phillips White & Sons.

Sam[l] Page
Sam[l] Page jun.
Ephraim Page
Jonathan Greeley jun
Enoch Page
Dier Hook
Stephen Scales
Josiah Bartlet, Esq
Theophilus Stevens
Jonathan Evans
Wm. True
} Owned by Samuel White Esq[r]

WESTMORELAND.

[Formerly called *Great Meadows;* was settled in 1741. ED.]

Petition of Inhabitants.

The Petition of the Inhabitants now resident at the *Great Meadows* on Connecticut river with other the inhabitants below on the said River, to the Gentlemen Petitioners for the Equivalent Land lying on the western side of the said River, conven'd at Worcester May the 13th 1752.

GENTLEMEN—We have made this place the constant and settled place of our abode for several years before the last French and Indian War and have sustained many distressing losses from the French and Indian enemy during the time and continuance of the s[d] war; Particularly our houses were burned, our cattle kill'd, some of our persons captivated and others put to death; we were confined to the small inclosure of a Garrison or Fort in which we were harried with the continual Incursions of the Enemy; wee were deprived of the advantage of our cropps by reason of the constant lurking of the Enemy, and not having souldiers sufficient for so small a number of Inhabitants to remain unmoveable were obliged to withdraw and desert our habitation which we enjoy'd peacably not as tenants to any gentlemen whatsoever, but in freehold as others of his Majesties faithful and loyal subjects; and upon our leaving our Fort immediately the Enemy burn'd the same down to the ground to our greater Damage with near the one half of our goods then present on the spott. After our departure we remained in the warrs for subsistance for ourselves and familys who was then without habitation.

And now we are informed of the goodness of the Gentlemen Petitioners for the said Equivalent land in which we abide, that there is room left for such as wee to come in with them as proprietors to the said land, and hereupon wee send that we may have the same conferr'd on us, which we do now request and petition for hoping as this is seasonably sent to the proprietors by the first opportunity wee had, do hope you will please to take into deep consideration these our past difficulties afore mentioned, and but just hinted at, you'll do by us accordingly, as also, inasmuch too, as we were absent but part of the space of two years from the said land; and wee do also Certify you, gentlemen, that wee were at the entire cost and expence of our Fort ourselves without the help of any person or persons whatsoever, but particularly Major Willard or any of his Relations whatsoever, which we are ready further to confirm by our Oaths; and forasmuch as some of us hath

been settled on the spot for near fourteen years past without molestation or hindrance, and some of us hath lost three houses past and now live in the fourth house, to our further Expence ;—Therefore wee humbly Leave the same with you Gentlemen and hope to hear an answer from you to our satisfaction, wishing and praying you the full and perfect grant according to your petition, and conclude ourselves, Gentlemen, your most Humble and Obliged Petitioners & ser^{vts}

These now living at the Great Meadows. { JOSEPH PERRY, STEPHEN DAVIS, PHILLIP ALEXANDER

Dwelling on the Land { JOHN ALEXANDER, MICHAL GIBSON, MOSES WRIGHT.

To the Gentlemen Petitioners for the Great Meadows.
Great Meadows, May 4, 1752.

WILTON.

[The first settlement in this town was made in 1738, by three families from Danvers, Ms., two by the name of Putnam, and one by the name of Dale. The town was incorporated, June 25. 1762, and derived its name from an ancient borough in Wiltshire, Eng. Before incorporation it was called No. 2. ED.]

Deed from Joseph Blanchard, Esq.

Province of New Hampshier } Pursuant to Power and Authority granted & vested in me by the Proprieters of Lands purchased of John Tufton Mason Esqr in the Province of New Hampshier by their votes passed at their meeting held at Portsmouth in said Province the 16 Day of June A : D. 1749 :

I DO, By these Presents, on the terms and conditions hereafter express'd, Give and Grant unto Thomas Read, Esqr Robt Fletcher, Jun., Joseph Blanchard, Jun., Oliver Colburn, Oliver Ferwel, John Usher, Thomas Spalden, John Lovel, jun. Peter Powers, Humphrey Hobs, John Combs, Joseph Blodget, Saml Fowl, Josiah Swan, Ezra Carpenter, Jonathan Cumings, Thomas Parker, jun John Farnum, Willm Foster, Rev^{d} Mr. Thomas Parker, Josiah Butterfield, Anthony Emery, Benjamin Parker, jun. Nehemiah Abbot, Saml Greeley, Benjamin Ferwell, Oliver Whiting, Joseph Richardson, Benj^{m} Ferley, John Kindall, Abraham Kindal, David Adams, Joseph French, Elizur Blanchard, Zacheus Lovwel, Saml Ferley, Willm Cumings, Jonathan Powers, Saml Cumings, Archelus Dale, Jacob Putnam, Nathan Putnam, John Dale, Stephen Heriman, John Shed and Ephraim Putnam :—all the rights title and property of the Grantors aforesaid, of, in, and to all that part

of a Township or Tract of Land in the Province of New Hampshier afore s^d^, containing Five miles square, Lying on the branches of Souhegan River, between Peter-Borough & Monson, Bounded as follows: Beginning at the South West Corner of the Premises at a White Pine Tree which is the North West Corner of the Township No. 1, and runs from thence North Five Miles to a White Ash mark'd; from thence East Five Miles to a Stake and Stones: from thence South five miles to a Chestnut Tree Mark'd; from thence West Five miles to the white Pine tree first mentioned: Which s^d^ Township is laid out & Drawn for & ascertained to each Grantee respectively; Also, two Lots for encouragement of or Building of Mills, and three shears for Publick use, Viz. one for the first settled minister, one for the Ministry, and one for the School there forever: which said shares and Lots to be the same as drawn and allready entered in the Schedule and Plan hereunto annexed, unto them respectively & to their heirs and Assigns; To HAVE and to HOLD, on the following terms and condition and Limitations, and on them only,—that is to say, That a Meeting-house be built on the Lot No. 11 in the Fifth range, and that in the South West Corner of s^d^ Lott there be six acres of Land in a square for me Reserved, & apropriated for the Publick use of those who Do or shall hereafter Inhabit in s^d^ Township; that the remaining lands not entered to the Grantees in the Schedule & Plan as afore specified in the Bounds of the Township, be and hereby are reserved to & for the use of the Grantors of the Premises, their Heirs & assigns forever, free and clear from all charges, tax or Incumbrance of settlement, untill their or any of their Parts are improved respectively by their or some some holding under them; the aforesaid named Grantees exclusive of their Publick Lotts, shall carry on, perform and make settlement at their *one* expence in the following manner, viz. That there be all Necessary High ways laid out in said Town where they will be most convenient, without any pay or allowance to those Grantor, Grantors or Grantees, through whose Land the same shall go, that the Grantees build a convenient house for the publick worship of God there, and finish the same at or before the last day of Novr 1752 for the use of those who shall then or afterward inhabit there; that they the s^d^ Grantees after Five years from the Date hereof maintain Preaching there; that there be on some one Lot of each of Forty of said Grantees shears, 3 acres of Land cleared enclosed and fitted so far as is Profitable for mowing or Tillage, at or before the last Day of November 1751, and each of the said Lotts to be cleared aforesd to be settled, having a House of sixteen feet square at the least, and seven feet stud or more, with a chimney and a cellar finished and fitted for a comfortable dwelling therein, at or before the last day of May 1752, & some family or person inhabiting or Residing in s^d^ dwelling House, & they or some other in each of their stead continue residing there untill the last of May 1755; that the owners of the said Forty settling shears have on each of their Rites respectively three acres of land more in like manner fitted, at or before the last day of November 1752; and the like quantity anually for two years next coming; that the remaining Five Rights or shears of the Grantees aforesaid, viz. Oliver Ferwell, Benjamin Ferwell, Joseph Blanchard, jun. Elizur Blanchard, and one Right of Robert Fletcher jun. Excused from the duty of building improving or settling untill the last day of Novr 1755, and then to have the whole performed as others at that time; that each of the s^d^ Grantees at the executing this Instrument, pay their thirty Pounds cash old Tennor to Defray the Necessary charges arisen & arising in bringing forward the settlement, to be Disposed in the hands of such person as they shall apoint, being a Resident and Freeholder in said Province; that the aforesaid Grantees or their Assigns, Assess such

further sum or sums of money equally in proportion to their Rights, on the share of each Grantee, exclusive of the three Publick Lotts, as may be necessary carrying on & compleating any of the Publick matters in making the settlement aforesaid, and on the failure of the Payment for the space of three months after such Tax or assessment is agreed upon & Posted up at such place or places as the Proprietors, the grantees aforesaid, shall appoint, to Give Notis for calling Proprietors Meetings, shall so much of such Delinquents Rights respectively be Disposed of by a Committee chosen by the Major part of the Grantees for that purpose, as will pay the s^{d} Tax & all charges arising thereon, and in case any of s^{d} Grantees shall Neglect or Refuse to pay or perform any of the articles aforementioned, he shall forfeit his shear and Right in said Township to those of the Grantees who shall not then be delinquent in the Performance of the condition enjoined, and it shall and may be Lawful for them by their agent or agents appointed by the major part of those not Delinquent, for that purpose enter into & upon the Right of such Delinquent Owners and him to amove out and expel for their heirs and assigns, Provided they settle such Delinquents Rights within the term of one year after the Period that is by the Indenture stipulated as the condition of the Grant, and fully comply with tne whole of the Duty such Delinquent ought to have done, within the term of one year from time to time after the respective period thereof; in case they omit complying as afors^{d} in that term as afors^{d}, that all such Delinquents Right shall evert and belong to the Grantors, their heirs & assigns for ever, free from all incumbrance of settlement or charge, always Provided there be no Indian War within any of the terms and Limitations afors^{d}, for doing the *Duty* conditions in this Grant, and in case that should hapen, the same time be alowed for the respective matters afors^{d}, after such impediment shall be removed; That all White Pine Trees fit for masting his Majesties Royal Navy, be & are hereby granted to his Majesty his heirs & successors forever.

Lastly, The said Grantors do hereby Promise to the Grantees, their heirs & assigns, to Defend through the Law to the King & Council, if need be, one action that shall and may be brought against them or any number of them by any person or persons whatsoever claiming the s^{d} land or any part thereof by any other title than that of the s^{d} Grantors or that by which they hold and derive theirs from, Provided the said Grantors are avoutched in to Defend the same and that in case on Final Tryal the same shall be Recover'd against the Grantors, the Grantees shall Recover nothing over against the Grantors for the said Lands, Improvement or Expence in bringing forward the Settlement.

In witness whereof, I, the subscriber, Joseph Blanchard of Dunstable, have hereunto set my Hand & Seal this First Day of October 1749.

JOSEPH BLANCHARD. | Seal. |

NOTE, BY THE EDITOR. The Plan and Schedule above referred to, containing the Names of the Grantees and the lots drawn by them, is annexed to the above Deed of conveyance, but it is impracticable to print it in form, without engraving. [See said Plan on MS. p. 302 of Town Papers, Vol. VI.]

Petition for Incorporation.

To his Exell^{y} Bening Wentworth, Esq. Govr &c. in the Province of New Hamp^{r} and the Honourable his Majesty's Council of said Province:

The Petition of us the subscribers being Inhabitants of a Tract of Land in said Province of the contents of five miles square called and known by the name of Num^{r} 2; which Township bounds Northerly on Lyndeborough westerly & Southerly on Peterborough Slip and Num^{r} 1, Easterly on ye Mason's Grant not taken up—which Tract of land is considerably settled & Improved, and is this year Taxed to the Province with other Towns:

We would therefore Humbly request of your Excell^{y} & Hon^{rs} that we may be Incorporated into a Township and be invested with such Privileges and Immunities as other Towns have and do Enjoy in this Province, for ye more easy carrying on our Public affairs &c. and that the said Corporation may be Bounded according to the Grant of the said Township, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

June 18, 1761.

James Man
John Cram
Jonathan Stevens
Heaziah Hamlet
Elexander Milicen
John Deale
John Burton
Philip Putnam
Jacob Putnam
Ebenezer Perry
Jonathan Grele
Hugh Smylie
Henry Snow
William Gibson
Samuel Kinkeed
William Mansur
Robert Smith
William Vance
Robert Renken
David Barker
Samuel Mansur
John Daveson
Benjamin Thomson.

NOTE.—The Town was incorporated, next year, by the name of Wilton. ED.

Province of New Hamp^{r} } To the Genl Assembly of the Province of New hamp^{r}

Humbly *sheweth* us the Subscribers, that in the year 1761, we were selectmen for the Town of Monson, and as such took an Inventory of the Poles and Estates of the Inhabitants of the Township of Number two, and Returned it to the Sec^{ys} office in Ports^{o} according to the Direction given us in the Orders from the Assembly relating the same, which service took us two days each, for which we charge sixteen pounds old

Ten^{r} and beg the same may be allow'd & paid to Joseph Blanchard—which much oblige y^{r} most ob^{t} Serv^{ts}

NATHAN HUTCHINSON
BENJ^{a} KENRICK.

Octo^{r} 8, 1764.

Province of } In the House of Representatives, Feby 7th 1765.
New Hamp^{r} } The above Petition being read,

Voted, That it be allowed and paid to their order Joseph Blanchard, Esq. sixteen shillings proclamation money out of the Treasury.

16*s*. A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council, March 6th 1765.
Read & concurred.
T. Atkinson, Jun. Sec^{y}.
Consented to B. WENTWORTH.

WINCHESTER.

[This town was originally granted and settled under Massachusetts, and first was called *Arlington*. It was chartered by New Hampshire July 2, 1753, to Josiah Willard (1) and others, who had effected a settlement as early as 1732. ED.]

Petition for Incorporation.

Province of } Portsmouth, Feb. 29, 1750.
New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Captain General & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's s^{d} Province, and to the Honble his Majesties Council of said Province:

The Petition of Josiah Willard Esqr in behalf of himself & others Inhabitants & settlers of a Place called *Winchester*, bordering on Connecticut River within this Province, humbly *sheweth:*

That your Petitioners were induced about eighteen years ago to go into the Wilderness to settle & improve the aforesaid Tract of Land, being told it was within the Mass^{a} government, which Government made them & Predecessors a Grant of the Land, as by a Plan herewith exhibited the Bounds may appear, & also invested them with all the Powers & Priveleges of a Town within the said Government of the Massachusetts aforesaid; That in consequence hereof about

(1) There is a tradition that Josiah Willard, one of the principal grantees, refused to have Dartmouth College located in Winchester, on the ground that it would have a tendency to depreciate the value of his possessions! ED.

fifty Families have at sundry times settled & made Improvements there, that above forty dwelling Houses were built on the same & a meeting House for the publick Worship, & a minister settled there (1): But so it happened that by ascertaining the divisional Line between this government & that of the Massachusetts, the said Town fell to ye Northward of ye said Line & consequently within this his Majesties Government; in consequence of which we had no Power of transacting any Town affairs such as choosing Town officers, making & collecting assessments for defraying the charge of the Ministry, school, Poor, making & clearing Roads &c: That they have once had all their private Buildings & meeting House burnt by the Enemy & were forced to retire with exceeding great loss; that since the Peace they are collected & got upon the Premises again & have many Houses built & more building, but for want of Town Privileges as above, are in a most unsettled & uncomfortable situation.

Wherefore Pray, that your Excellency and Honours would be graciously pleased to grant them a Charter of Incorporation (with all such Town privileges as are usually granted to other Towns in this Province) agreeable to the Bounds described in the Plan herewith exhibited (2), which are the same as heretofore they imagined to be their Bounds:—& your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JOSIAH WILLARD.

Petition for relief.

Province of New Hamp^r^ } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Govr &c. in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp^r^ the Hon^bl^ his Majesty's Councill & House of Rep^es^ in Genl Assembly convened:

Josiah Willard of Winchester in the Province of New Hamp^r^ in behalf of himself & the Inhabitants on Connecticut River & towns adjacent within this Province wou'd most humbly remonstrate:—

That there is began and a considerable progress made in settlement of the Towns on that river for near forty miles to the Northward of the Massachusetts line, as well as severall other settlements about ten miles distant from said River:

That they are left exposed to the cruelty and depredations of the Indians—late instance thereof they have had—and

(1) The first minister was Rev. Joseph Ashley, a graduate of Yale College in 1730; was ordained Nov. 12, 1736; removed in 1747, on account of the Indian war. ED.

(2) The Plan is not found by the Editor, in this connection.

apprehend themselves in the utmost hazard of suffering by their hands, unless some proper defence can be made by this Govern^{t}:

That in the French war the greatest part of those Towns were left defenceless, drove of, their forts & Buildings & much of their Estate destroyed by ye Indians, besides the Slaughter & captivation of ye Inhabitants:

That they have vigorously renewed their settlement since that war, and are now upwards of two hundred familys, the greatest part of whose Estates are wholly there, and if constrain'd (for want of Defence) to make that part of the Province a dereliction, they will be left in very distressing circumstances as well as the Frontier much increased:

That the contiguous parts of the Frontier of the Massachusetts are amply Defended by a number of their troops employed there, so that we at present are the only easy prey the Indians can have:—

Wherefore 'tis most humbly requested, that y^{r} Excellency & Hon^{rs} wou'd consider of the Premises & grant them necessary & speedy Relief:—which is most humbly submitted by y^{r} Excellencys & Hon^{rs} most humble and most obedient serv^{t}

JOSIAH WILLARD.

Portsmo', Jan^{r} 3^{d} 1755.

In Council, Jany 16, 1755.
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{bl} Assembly recommend^{d}
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^{y}.

WINDHAM.

[Windham formerly belonged to Londonderry, and was incorporated as a Parish February 12, 1742. It was the third Parish of Londonderry. ED.]

NOTE.—Sundry papers relating to Windham, with Mr. Bryent's Plan of the Parish, may be found among the Londonderry Papers—which see. ED.

Petition of James Reid and William Parker.

Province of New Hamp^{r} } To his Excelency Jonathan Belcher Esqr Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshere in New England, the Hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Court convened, the 31st Day of July Anno Dom. 1740.

Humbly shew, James Reed of Londonderry in the Prov-

ince of New Hampshire, yeoman & William Parker of Portsmouth in said Province, Gent. as agents for and in behalf of the new Parish in said Londonderry:—

That at the last Session of this Hon^bl Court sundry of the Inhabitants of Londonderry afores^d exhibited a Petition praying that they (with others) might be erected & incorporated into a new Parish with the usual Powers & authorities granted in the like cases:

That accordingly an Act was past by which a new Parish was erected & incorporated within said Londonderry by certain metes & bounds set forth in the said Act with the usual powers & authorities of a Parish, by which Act the first meeting of the said Parishioners was to have been in March last; But so it happen'd that no Persons were named & appointed to call the first meeting in & by said Act, tho' a blank is therein left for the names of such Persons as this Hon^bl Court should see meet to appoint; Whereby the ends & purposes of the said Act are intirely prevented and can in no measure take effect until something farther shall be done in the premises.

Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of their principals most humbly pray that proper persons may be appointed to call the first meeting of the said Parishioners, and that they may be enabled to call the same forthwith, and that when the said Parishioners are assembled they may have the same power and authority as if their meeting had been held in March last, & the officers that shall be chosen at the same as fully impower'd to discharge the duty of their respective offices for the remaining part of the curr^t year & until new ones shall be chosen as if they had been chosen in March last pursuant to the said Act;—And y^r Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JAMES REID
WILLIAM PARKER

In the House of Representatives, Aug^st ye 5th 1740.

The within Petition was read and voted, that the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that John McMurphy, Geo: Duncan, jun. & James Akins be the p'sons to call the first meeting on the first Wednesday in September next: and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill Accordingly.

James Jeffrey, Clk. ass^m

In Council, Eod^m die.
Read & concurred.
Richd Waldron, Sec^y.

Same day, Assented to. J. BELCHER.

Incorporation of Windham as a Parish.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Secundi Magnæ Britaniæ, Franciæ and Hiberniæ, Decimo Quarto &c.

An Act for Incorporating a New parish in the Township of Londonderry in the Province of New Hampshire.

Whereas sundry of the Inhabitants of the Southern part of Londonderry aforesaid have petitioned this Court representing their circumstances to be such as made it necessary to Incorporate them into a new parish & that the other part of the Town was willing they should be so Incorporated by the Boundaries particularly set forth in their Petition, and praying that it might be accordingly done :—which Representation having been examined by this Court and found true as to the substance thereof:

Be it therefore Enacted, By his Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court Assembled, and by the authority of the same It is hereby Enacted and ordained, that a new Parish shall be erected in the said township of Londonderry and hereby incorporated and made by the name of *Windham*, and is comprehended within the following metes and Boundaries, (viz.) Beginning at the Dwelling House of one John Hopkins of said Londonderry, yeoman and from thence running on a due west course to Beaver brook so called: then beginning again at the said house at the place where it began before (so as to have the said house to ye Northward) and from thence to run on a due East course till it Comes to ye Easterly line of said Londonderry, thence to run as said Line runs till it comes to the southerly boundary of said Londonderry, then to run to Westward as the said boundary runs till it comes to the said Brook, and then to run as the said Brook runs untill it comes to the place on the said Brook where the said West line runs across the same :— Excepting out of these limits the polls and estates of John Archibald, James Clark, James Moor, John Hopkin, and John Cochran and their respective families: And the said Parish shall be and hereby is invested with all the powers and Authorities that ye severall Towns in this Province are invested with, and likewise shall have, hold and enjoy the same priviledges, immunities and liberties that the said towns hold and enjoy by the Laws and customs in use and force within the Same: Saving only the chusing of a Representative in the General Court, in which matter the Inhabitants of s^d^ Parish are to joyn with the other Inhabitants of said town; as also in what concerns the Common Lands in the said township; And the Inhabitants of the said Parish and the Estates within the same (saving those before excepted—) are hereby exonerated & discharged of and from all duties, services and burthens;— and the payment of all taxes, rates and charges to any other part of the said town, Excepting what relates to sending and supporting a Representative at the General Court, the dividing or managing the Common Lands aforesaid and such taxes, rates and charges as are already proportioned, assessed within the said town.

And Be it further Enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That Robert Dinsmoor, Joseph Waugh and Robert Thomson are hereby authorized and appointed to call the first meeting of the Inhabitants of the said Parish on the eighth day of March next; in the performance of which as also in the management and Regulation of the said meeting, The laws relating to such matters and the customs in force in said Province are to be attended and observed: And the officers that shall be chosen by the said Inhabitants at the said meeting regulated as aforesaid, shall be and hereby are authorized and impowered, being first qualified Ac-

cording to Law, to execute, observe, do and fulfill all and singular the authoritys, powers and dutys, and hold and enjoy the privileges, profits and immunities appertaining to their respective offices, that such officers in the several towns aforesaid execute, hold and enjoy and as effectually to all intents and purposes;—provided that the inhabitants of the said Parish shall from time to time provide, maintain and support an orthodox minister of the Gospel among them:

Febuary, ye 10, 1741. In the house of Representatives the above Bill read three times and past to be enacted.

Andrew Wiggin, Speaker.

Feby 12, 1741–2. Read three times at ye Council Board and past to be enacted.

Richard Waldron, Sec^y^.

Feby 12, 1741–2. I assent to the enacting this Bill.

B. Wentworth.

(A true Copy—Attest—
Saml Campbel, Clerk.)

Deposition of James Gilmore.

The Deposition of James Gilmore of lawful age, doth testify & say that he being Constable in Windham for the year 1743, collected the Province tax of all the Inhabitants within s^d^ Parish in its original bounds, committed to his List.

James Gilmore.

Certificate. [A rare specimen.]

Province of New hamp^r^ } Sallam, January the 19th, year 1757? than the a bove named Jemes Gillmor apeard Before me and Being carefully Eaxamind to and casined to tastify the holl truth mad sollam oth to the truth of the above writen Dickclarison By him him subscribed it Being taken at the Request of Oliver Sanders to Be yousd in the Jenerill A Samble of said Province Realting to a patision loged with the said a sambly Relating to the Destrickt Raats of Methuen for an axamshun from said Rates.

Sworn Before me this Day and Dat above menshuned.

Daniel Peaslee, just of the pece.

[A similar Deposition was made by John Vance, constable, of collecting taxes, in 1747; which was also certified by Daniel Peaslee, in form as above, Jany 20, 1757. Ed.]

Petition in relation to an irregular Parish meeting.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Capt. General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened, the 11th day of Decemb^r^ 1746.

The Humble Petition of sundry of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Parish of Windham in said Province, *shews:*

That the selectmen of said Parish for the current year, by their Warrant or Notification dated the 20th of June last, called a meeting of the Inhabitants & Freeholders of the same, to have been holden on the 7th day of July following, but held in September last by adjournment, for the following purposes, viz. First, to see what Encouragement they would give for the settling of a Gospel Minister among them & what yearly salary. 2dly to consider what sum might be proper to be raised for the maintenance of the Gospel among them according to their former way, or whatever else they might then think necessary.

Pursuant to which the meeting was afterwards held by adjournment as aforesaid & Voted on the first article of the Warrant to give Mr. Wm. Johnson (a gentleman who has preached there) the sum of three hundred pounds Old Tenor settling money, & two hundred pounds yearly salary. 2dly, Voted on the last article of the Warrant, not to raise any money according to their former manner.

That there would not have been a majority of the Votes in favour of those Resolves had more been admitted to Vote but such as were qualified, but by admitting of disqualified Persons matters were carried against the majority, or at least an equal number of qualified voters:

That the said Meeting being a special or particular meeting nothing should have been transacted there but what was expressly mentioned in the warrant for calling of the same; and your Petitioners humbly conceive that neither of the articles mentioned in the said warrant could authorize the voters at that meeting to make choice of a man to be their minister, nor to give an invitation to any particular person to settle among them in that relation & whenever a meeting is call'd for that purpose being a point of great weight & Consequence ought always to be expressly set forth in the warrant as part of the intended business of the meeting & not to be comprised under any general expressions whatsoever.

That your petitioners apprehend, should such a design be fairly Notified & the meeting Regularly conducted, there would be a majority of the Votes against the choice aforesaid & in order to obtain such a meeting more than twenty-five of

the Inhabitants & Freeholders of the said Parish have since petition'd the select men afores[d] for that purpose & mention'd in their petition sundry articles they would have inserted in the Notification for calling the Meeting: But the Selectmen have refused & utterly denied to do it:—all which with many other matters respecting the managem[t] of said meeting too tedious to be here inserted your petitioners conceive to be just matter of grievance & complaints Wherefore they Humbly pray that the meeting held as aforesaid may be declared to be irregular & illegal & the proceedings thereof Null & Void; that a new meeting may be called for the purposes mentioned in the Petition to the selectmen afores[d] (a copy of which shall be produced,) and some indifferent suitable person be appointed to govern the said meeting, that so the minds of the Parish may be truly known relating to the matter in Dispute, and thereby a variety of Law-suits prevented: And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

William Jameson	William Jameson jun
Samuel Armour	William Gregg
Daniel Clyde	John Kyle
Henery Campbell	John Dinsmoor, jun.
Francis Smiley	Hugh Graham
Robert Dinsmoor	John Waddell
Robert Hopkins	Thomas Campbell
William Campbell	Authur Graham
Joseph Clyde	John Willson
Hugh Clyde	Samuel Smith
Robert Spear	John Armstrong
Francis Dinsmoor	John Campbell
Samuel Campbell	John Mckay
John Dinsmoor	David Gregg.

In Council, December 11th 1746.
Read & ordered to be sent down to y[e] Hon[ble] House.
Theod. Atkinson, Sec.

Prov. of New Hampshire. } In the House of Representatives, Dec. 11, 1746.

Voted, That the within Petitioners be heard on the within Petition the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly after y[e] seventeenth day of January next & that s[d] Petitioners at their own cost serve the select men of s[d] Windham with a Copy of this Petition & this order of Court, that they may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer of s[d] Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce, Clk.

In Council, December 13th 1746.
Read & concurrd.
Theod[e] Atkinson, Sec[y].

Eodem Die, Assented to

B. Wentworth.

Province of New Hampshir } Windham, January the 4th 1750.

Agreeable to a voate of the town att their meetting the 21st of December last, att which meetting it was voated to have an alteration of the line between Windham and Salem, and said Line having been Run to the content of both towns and no person having been chosen att said meetting to have the line confirmed between both Towns, we the subscribers being select men of Windham do appoint our trusty friend Samuel Campbell to act in the town of Windham's Behalf in our place to have sd Line confirmed by the Governor and Councel of sd Province as witness our hand the day & year above.

John Wilson
Joseph Clyd,
Selectmen.

Province of New Hampshr } Windham, April 30th 1750.

By virtue of a Warrant Granted by the Selectmen of Windham aforesaid, and directed to the Constable of sd Windham, to call a meeting of the Inhabitants & freeholders of sd Parish, bearing deat November the 5, 1747, to be held the twintith day of sd month the said meatting Being lawfully caled and held at Windham, afores[d] and after consideration of sd warrant

Voated to petition the General Court of sd Province to have the Inhabitants liveing on the South East side of Policy Pond so caled to Bear and pay their equal part of all publick taxes with the other Inhabitants of sd Parish, or to have them disannexed intirely from us and an addition mead to us else where as it shall be thought most proper.

A true copy, Pr.

William Gregg, Town Clark.

Paper relating to an Order from Court.

Province of New Hampshire } Windham, May 7th 1750.

Pershuant to an order from his Excelency Benning Wentworth, Esqr and the honarable his Majestes Councel to the parish of Windham, to appear at Portsmouth the ninth instant to shew cause if any they had why the prayer of a petition preferred by Joseph Peasly Esqr and other Inhabitants of Methuen district should not be granted, We the subscribers Being inhabitants and freeholders of Windham afores[d] do hereby manifest our willingness that the prayer of sd Petition should be granted, But not to have the said petitioners *powled* from us By any means Because of the evel consequences that have subsisted amongst us about the place of the meetting house and other affairs.

David Gregg
Henry Campbell
Thomas Ricky
Saml Campbell
John Cambell
Henry Cambell, jun
John Boyd
John Gregg
Hugh Graham
Thomas Campbell
Saml Smith
Hugh Smith
Saml Smith, jun
John Graham
John Waddel
John M Cay
Wm M Cay
John Kyll
Willm Gregg
John Armstrong
Hugh Clyde
Daniel Clyd

John Clyd
Hugh Brown
Joseph Waugh
Will[m] Waugh
Nathinel Hemphill
James Dunlap
James Caldwell
James Caldwell, jun
Samuel Clyd
John Kann
Georg Davison
Robert Hemphill
James Galt
Peter Daveson
Clem[t] ? Dunlap
John Wilson.

Windham's caveat against Methuen.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth, Capt. Generall and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of Newhampshire, and the Honorable his Majesties Coun*sal* now sitting in Portsmouth.

The humble suplication of us the Inhabitants of Windham, humbly *sheweth*—

That whereas your Exc[y] & Honors have established the Bounds and under God has prevented the alteration of the shape of our town or Parish when a fue disaffected persons who were uneasy by Reason of the *Sate* for a meeting house not being to their liking, did endeavour to make a shism and destroy our little parish, and now hearing as the story came yesterday to be publick that some such Desine is affoot to the alteration of the shape of things with us, and that one of our disaffected bretherin with the consent of some others of his taste is gon Down to Portsmouth clandestinely on this affair, and if he appears before your Excell[y] and Honours knowing the man we expect nothing else but that there will be a misrepresentation of our town and the present sircumstances of it made: Therefore to prevent his ill natured satisfaction and to preserve the shape and Christean liberty and property of our town or parish we shue to your Excell[y] and Honours who are and have been able under God to preserve the being and order of it in spite of shismaticks who disturb the peace and unity of Sociateas; and be it known to your Excellency and Honours that our Desirs in this is not in the least to oblidge a Congregationall Brother to pay to the suport of our Presbyterian Minister but chearfully allowing as was some time since represented to your Excellency and Honours, the same Liberty to the Congregationalls in Windham as is to the Presbyterians in Chester, (viz.) to pay our own Minister, and so your petitioners relying on your Excell[y] and Honors care and goodness in these things, as you are the being we are to flie to under our Difficulties in preserving our town in its form and proper order: So as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Alexander Park
Alexander Park, jun.
Robert Park
Robert Spear

Francis Dinsmore
John Dinsmore
James Brown
Will[m] Jamison
Samell Armor
Gain Armour
Jonathan Morison
Thomas Jamison
James Brown
Sam[l] Morison
John Cristy
John Vance
John Cochran
Samuel Adams
John Dauson (1)
William Adams
Alexander Simpson
David Bolton
Adam Templeton
Francis Smylie
William Bolton
John Morrow
Samuel Kinkeed
Nathan Man
James Gillmor
Hugh Smylie
John Steuart
William Thomb
William Smylie
William Jameson.

Warrant for a Town meeting at Windham.

New Hampshire:

To the Constable of the Parish of Windham in said Province, Greeting:

Whereas complaint is made to us the subscribers two of his Majesties Justices of the Peace for the Province aforesaid, by upwards of thirty of the freeholders and Inhabitants of Windham aforesaid, That the Selectmen of said ——— have unreasonably denied and refused to grant a parish meeting in the Distre'st circumstances that the parish are in at present and the said petitioners having applyed to us for Relief as the law directs, &c.

These are therefore in his Majesties name to command you forthwith to notifie and warn the freeholders and inhabitants of Windham aforesaid qualified by Law to assemble and meet at Samuel MacAdams Barn in Windham aforesaid upon Friday the eighth day of June next at ten of the Clock in the forenoon, then and there,

1st To chuse a Moderator for said meeting.

2[dly] To see if the parish will prefer a petition to his Excelency our Governor and to the Honourable his Majesties Council for the Province aforesaid in order to have our parish restored to its former bounds and to act thereon as they shall see cause.

3[dly] To see if they will chuse some fitt person or persons as an agent or agents to prefer said Petition and prosecute the same before his Excelency and Honours, and for your so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant. Given under our hands and seals at Londonderry in said Province this twenty sixth day of May in the twenty third year of his Majesties Reign Anno Dom. 1750.

To Mr. Daniel Clyd, Constable
for Windham aforesaid.

John Mac Murphy } Unus
Robert Boyes } Quorum

I have published the above warrant according to Custom, Pr me, Daniel Clyd, Constable for Windham, this eight day of June 1750.

Attest—A true copy pr. William Gregg, town clerk.

(1) This name may be *Davison*. Ed.

By virtue of the foregoing Warrant granted by two of his Majesties Justices of the Peace for said Province for holding a parish meeting in Windham, the freeholders and Inhabitants of Windham, aforesaid met at Samuel MacAdams Barn on the day appointed for said meeting, and after opening the meeting,

Voated on the first article of the above Warrant Robert Dinsmoor, for moderator of said meeting.

Voated on the second article of the above Warrant to petition the Governor and Council of this province for the things contained in said article.

Voated on the third and last article of the Warrant for agents to prefer a petition to the Governor and Council of this Province and prosecute the same, Samuel Morrison and John Dinsmoor.

A true coppy from the minetts of said meeting.

Coppy examined William Gregg, Town Clerk.

At a Parish Meeting held in Windham the sixteenth of January last, Voated on the third article of the foregoing Warrant not to make any addition to the Rev^{d} Mr. Johnston's Sallary at this time.

A true Coppey of said Voate.

William Gregg, Town Clerk.

[This seems to refer to another occasion of town meeting. ED.]

Petition for an alteration in their Charter.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. Generall and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New hampshire, and to the Honourable his Maj^{ts} Council for said Province, conven'd.

The humble Petition of us the subscribers being Inhabitants and freeholders of Windham in s^{d} Province, humbly *Sheweth:*

That whereas on the sixth day of June Instant we, with a Committee of the Inhabitants of Salem, both parties being present with surveyor and chain-men sworn, have rune the several courses mentioned in Salem Charter and Plan of the town, and finding that they will not be convenient to both Towns if they Stand as they are:—We the subscribers therefore humbly prays that your Excelency & honours would consider us on that account and make an alteration in the Charter and plan which will tend to the Benifite and peace of both towns, and in so doing your humble petitioners will be in duty ever bound to pray;

The alteration to be made in manner following; that is to say—To Run from the Angle of Londonderry line South on said Line till it comes to the north Corner of Hitty-tity Pond so called, and there to erect a bound betwixt both towns; from thence south 39 degrees west to a Stake and Stons that was sett this day by both parties standing on the south west

corner of Pollicy Pond so called; thence South till it comes within sixty Rhods of John Obers, jun. dwelling house; thence South 23 degrees west to Pelham line; thence by Pelham line to the Province line.

Signed by us and dated this eighth day of June, Anno Dom. 1750.

And further your petitioners prays that John Dinsmore, Robert Spear and Samuel Armoore and their femilys may be exempted oute of Salem to Windham where they did belong.

David Gregg	John Armstrong
Henry Campbell	Nathaniel Hemphill
John Kyll	Alex^{r} Dunlap
John Waddel	Saml Campbell
Thomas Richardson	George Davidson
Daniel Clyd	Hugh Clyd
Joseph Waugh	John McCay
James Dunlap	Thomas Campbell
Hugh Brown	Hugh Graham
James Caldwell	John Campbell
James Caldwell, jun	John Gregg
Joseph Clyd	John Willson
Willm Gregg	James Galt
Willm Waugh	Peter Patison.

Petition of Samuel Morrison and John Dinsmoor, jun.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt. General, Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and the Honble his Majesty's Council for said Province:

The humble Petition of Samuel Morrison & John Dinsmore both of Windham in said Province, yeomen, as Agents for said Windham *Shews*:—

That Windham is a Parish within the Township of Londonderry incorporated about the year 1742, which was done for the conveniency of the Inhabitants with regard to their attending the Public Worship of God, as they were situate at a great distance from each of the meeting-houses in said Londonderry, tho' they were scarcely able to support the charges incident to a separate Parish; yet as the Parish was of sufficient extent they were willing for the conveniency afores^{d} to bear the burthen which at first lay on them (tho' heavy) in hopes it would grow lighter every year by the addition of new Parishioners.

That a great part of the Northerly side of said Parish is very poor land uncapable of any kind of Improvement so that the Parish would never have been rich & able like the other Parishes in said Town, had it remain'd of the same extent as

at first: But by the Incorporation of the Town of Salem lately made, near a third part of the said Parish is cut off, & comprehended within that Township, & the best land, which with what was excepted out of said Parish wch fell within the bounds, by the Act of Incorporation and the unimprovable Land, not only renders the Parish impotent at present, but puts it beyond all hopes of Recovery;—so that there can be no rational prospect of its continuance under such a situation in any respect but having an empty useless Name.

That this would have been truly and seasonably represented, But by the designed or careless management of one of the Selectmen, to whom the order or notice of Council that the Parish might be heard on Petition for the Township of Salem was delivered, they had no notice till it was too late, for the Selectmen could not undertake to make an answer without consulting the Parish & taking their orders thereon & they were so far from having the opportunity for that, that two of them knew nothing of it till the day appointed for the hearing, or near it, and then represented to be the week after.

And had a just representation of all circumstances been made, your Petitioners humbly conceive your Excellency & the Hon^bl^e^e^ Board would not have granted the said Petition so much to the prejudice of said Parish, since as it now stands the case in effect is the Ruining an old corporation to erect a new one: Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray that they may be heard in behalf of the said Parish upon the premises and that the Charter of Salem aforesaid may (so far as it interferes with the said Parish) be vacated, or that the said Parish may in some other way be relieved & prevented from being broken up & they be obliged to dismiss the minister they have settled; and your Petitioners in behalf of their principals shall as in duty bound ever pray, &c.

SAM^l^ MORISON
JOHN DINSMOOR, jun.

Portsmouth, June 29th 1750.

[NOTE. By virtue of a Warrant issued by John Wilson and Joseph Clyd, Selectmen of Windham, another Town meeting was called which met at Samuel McAdams Barn, on Friday the 21st of December, 1750, and agreeably to the warrant, acted on the articles specified. ED.]

Petition against the proceedings of said Meeting.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Capt. General, Governor & Commander in Chief in over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, and the Hon^bl his Majesty's Council for said Province:

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants & freeholders of the Parish of Windham in said Province, *shews:*

That the Selectmen of said Parish for the current year by their warrant or Notification dated the sixth of this Instant Dec^r, called a meeting of the freeholders & Inhabitants of the same, to be held the twenty first day of the same for the following purposes, (viz.)

First, to see if you will make any alteration in the late Line between us and Salem.

2dly To see if you will begin at the westerly Angle of Londonderry East line, and so running South to Hyti-tity Pond, thence to Policy Pond, thence to the south-west Corner of the Same, thence to Pelham Line, so as to leave out the English people and include John Dinsmoor, Samuel Armour, Gaan Armour and Robert Spear and their families.

3dly To see if you will Reconsider a vote pass'd on the third article of a warrant granted last June 8th

4^y To see if the Town will allow the agents chosen at s^d meeting to prosecute the Business for which they were chosen any further.

Pursuant to which the meeting was held as a fore s^d and voted on the first article to alter the line afores^d

2^ly Voted on the second article to run a line as set forth in said Warrant. 3dly Voted to reconsider the vote pass'd on the warrant afors^d. 4^ly Voted not to allow the agents chosen as afores^d to prosecute the Business for which they were chosen any further in behalf of Windham.

That there would not have been a majority of Voters in favour of those Resolves, had all those who we apprehend are qualified to vote been admitted, But by refusing such and admitting disqualified persons, matters were carried against a majority or at least an equal number of qualified Voters.

That the affairs of this Parish is in a very uncomfortable situation from the success which those who are at present the officers (with others of the same temper) have obtained by their underhand dealing, which leads to the utter ruin & Destruction of a poor Parish, unless your Excellency & the Hon^bl^e Board (who are the only beings that can relieve us) redress our grievance.

Wherefore we humbly Pray that the meeting held as aforesaid may be declared illegal & irregular, & the proceedings thereof null and void, that thereby a Variety of Law-suits may be prevented, which are as moaths to a Society, and our adverse party frustrated in their exorbitant & unreasonable Demands & designs, and that what was done at s^d meeting may

not be confirmed by your Excellency and Honours. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Subscribed at Windham the 22d Decr 1750.

Francis Smiley
James Gilmer
Alexander Park
John X Vane—mark
John X Morse—mark
John Dinsmour
Robert Spear
Saml Armore
Gain Armour
Franse Dinsmore
John Dinsmore, jun
Allax. Simpson
Adam Templton
John Davidson
Saml McAdams
Willm McAdams
John Cristy
William Bolton
James Brown
Jonathan Morion
Francis Smith
Thomas Quigly
William Thom
Alexr X Richy—mark
John Stuart
Robert Park
David Bolton
Thos McConnell
Willm Jamison
Willm Jameson, Jun
Thomas Jameson
John Dinsmoor, jun
Robt Hopkins
Saml Morison
Hugh Smylie
Alexr Parkins
Nathan Man
Joseph Park
John Kyll

Certificate.

Salam Dsembr ye 24th 1750.

At a Town meeting held on Monday ye 24th Mr. Hanery Sanders chosen modratr for sd meeting then their was a Vot to have en altration of ye line betwen Salam and Windham according to ye agreement of each party Now as foloweth begining at ye angle of Londan Darry line then wroning to hitty Pond so col'd then over to ye south west angle of Policy pond so col'd from thence a straight lin to Palham line so as to tak all the inglish inhabitnc to Salam.

A true copy taken out of Salam townd book.
Examd as

a tast Nathll Dow Townd Clerk

Deposition of Henry Sanders.

i the Deponent of Lawfull Age tastify and saith that the parsons hoas nams are hear aftr mensend are included within Provants line of Londdary and within the Parrish of Wandham so called and father saith that he was fomily a inhabiter their and paid his provance tax to sd Whindham.

Henry Sanders.

Names.

Joshua Thorndick
Isrell Woodbery
Wm. Leach
Jonathan Morgan
Nathl Woodbery
Abiall Pitman
John Hill
John Grele
Edward Baley
Joseph *Hull ?*
Benj. Corning
Georg Corning
John Corning
Ebenr Woodbery
John Ober, Esqr
Robert *Clind ?*
Jonathe Woodbery
John Hall

Olover Kimbel	Timothy Sanders
John Ober jun	Olover Sanders
John Dinesmore	John Ashley
Robert Spear	Isrell Ober
Samuel Armor	Hugh Camell
Andrew Balch	Archer Churchwood.

[Sworn to January 31, 1757, before
Daniel Peasle Just. of the Pece.]

Warrant for a Town Meeting.

Province of New Hampshire } To Mr. Joseph Clyde Constable for Windham, Greeting:

You are hereby Required to warn the freeholders & Inhabitants of Windham duly qualified By Law to assemble and meet at James Dunlaps Barn on Munday the ninth day of March next at ten of the clock before noon then and there to act on the following particulars:

1st To chuse a moderator to govern said meeting.

2ly To chuse Selectmen and town Clark and Constable for the following year.

3ly To chuse assessors and Collectors for the inshuing year.

4ly To chuse all other officers as usewall for the Inshuing year.

And when you have preformed the service herein Required of this make Return and of your doings therein and this shall Be your Warrant. Given under our hands this 18th Day of feberoary A D 1751–2.

Hugh Brown } Select
George Davidson } men

The above written Warrant was published according to custom by me, Joseph Clyde, Constable for Windham.

A true Copy, Willm Gregg, Clark to the Parish.

Windham, March ye 9th 1751–2.

By vertue of the above warrant from the Selectmen to the Constable of Windham for calling the annual meeting of the Parish, the freeholders and Inhabitants meet the time and place appointed in sd warning meeting, and after opening the meeting the following persons chosen to their respective offices, viz.

For moderator	John Armstrong
For Selectmen	Hugh Brown James Dunlap James Caldwell, jun
For Parish Clark	Willm Gregg
For Constable	John Campbell
For Assessors	Willm Gregg Joseph Clyde James Caldwell, jun
For collector of Ministers salary	Nathaniel Hemphill
For surveyors of high ways	John Kerr Alexr Dunlap Saml Campbell Saml Archibald John Dinsmoor* John Morrow*
For taking an Invoice	James Dunlap James Caldwell, jun
For *Stewards?*	John Kyll jun* Alexr Rickey*

For counters with the constable & collector,	Hugh Clyde John Gregg
For fence viewers & prisers of damage,	David Gregg Daniel Clyde
For tything men	Peter Patison Samuel McAdams*

*Those men with this mark refused to take the usual oaths.

Coppy Examined, Will[m] Gregg, Town Clerk.

A Town Meeting & Votes.

[Note. A town meeting called by warrant, met in James Caldwell's Barn, July 15th 1752, and acted on the following articles, viz.]

1st To see if you will chuse a Committee to settle the Town accounts with Rev[d] Mr. Johnston.

2[d] To see if you will chuse a committee to take up our Call or Calls from the Rev[d] Mr. Wm. Johnston (1)

Signed by James Dunlap, Hugh Brown, James Caldwell } Selectmen.

At which meeting chose Joseph Clyde, moderator.

1st Voated For a Committee to settle accounts with the Rev[d] Mr. Johnston, viz. Will[m] Gregg, Sam[l] Campbell & John Dinsmoor.

Voated and Chose for a Comite to gett the Call from the Rev[d] Mr. Johnston, viz. Hugh Brown, James Caldwell jun & John Vance.

Copy Exam[d] Will[m] Gregg, Town Clerk.

Vote passed at another Town Meeting.

[Note. A warrant was issued for calling a town meeting, at James Caldwell's Barn, January 16, 1753.]

1st To see what method you will take to have the gospel preached amongst us this winter.

2[d] "To see what you will allow the Committee that was chosen to take care of the ministerial Lot to do with the Logs lying cutt on it and the other fallen timber.

3[d] "To see what you will allow the Constable to do with them that will not pay up their Reats." signed by

James Dunlap, James Caldwell, Hugh Brown } Selectmen

At which meeting, chose Alexander Dunlap Moderator.

Voated and chosen for a Committee Nathaniel Hemphill and Joseph Waugh to go to the Rev[d] Messrs Davidson and MacGregore of Londonderry and Willson of Chester to see if each of them will preach a day for us: and further

Voated that James Caldwell, Treasurer is Impowered by this Voat to pay those Rev[d] Gentlemen if they preach to us out of the money that is Colected and in the Constables hands

Voated on the second article of the Warrant That the Comitee that

(1) Rev. Wm. Johnston, minister of the Presbyterian Church in Windham, was installed there in 1747; he was dismissed in July, 1752. Ed.

was chose to tak care of the ministeriall Lott are impowered by this Voat to sell the Logs and fallen timber on s[d] Lott at publick Vendue to the highest bidder

Voated on the Last article of the warrant not to consider of it this time.

Copy Exam[d]

Will[m] Gregg, Town Clerk.

Petition relating to a disturbance in the Parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq[r] Capt. General, Governor & commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon[ble] his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

The Humble Petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of Windham in said Province, *shews:*

That at the last Annual meeting of said Inhabitants for the choice of Town officers a difference arose among the said Inhabitants concerning the Right of voting: The Selectmen suffering sundry Persons expressly excepted in the Act for incorporating of Windham to vote there and sundry others who did not belong there & were not Inhabitants & only Occasionally in the Parish.

That a great Number of the Inhabitants then objected against such Proceedings, but to no purpose, they still proceeded; whereupon the objectors seperated & held a different meeting whereby there were two sets of officers chosen & sworn; but being doubtful of their authority on both sides neither party has acted in their offices and the whole Business of the Parish in consequence thereof has been neglected to this time.

That this is a great injury to the Minister & all others who have any concern with the Parish as well as to the Inhabitants in general and to leave the affair to the decision of the Law in the common course would be much more so not only by the expence but the delay which will be occasioned in that way, and as there is no Prospect of a Reconciliation the breach is likely to grow wider, for it all rests till the next annual meeting; the same Dispute will in all probability again arise with an additional controversy about calling the meeting.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray that the circumstances of the said Parish may be considered and that in your great wisdom & goodness you wou'd interpose & reduce their affairs in this regard into order; That you will make void both the said proceedings, appoint a proper person to call & govern a new meeting, that all grounds of Dispute respecting

the premises may be taken away or that you will relieve the said Parish in any other method which you shall judge best,—and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

Feb. 2d 1753.

Alexander Park	John Kyll jun.
John Dinsmore	Francis Smylie
John Morrow	Saml Morrison
William Thom	Robt Park
Thomas Quigly	Joseph Park
Willm Thompson	John Bolton
John Stewart	James Twadell
Nathan Man	Wm. Bolton
Alexander Simpson	Samuel McAdams
Alexander Richy	Andrew Armour
John Cristy	Gain Armour
Robert Spear	John Dinsmore
George Spear	Thomas Jamison
Willm Jeamson	William Jamison
James Gillmore	James Jamieson.
Saml Armour	John Tufft
James Brown	Adam Templeton
Willm Smylie	Samuel Thompson
Francis Dinsmore	Andrew Thompson
Hugh Boide	Samuel Kinkead.
John Kyll	

[On the foregoing Petition a hearing was granted "on the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the 10th of February inst.," and George Davison, Hugh Brown and Saml Cambell, selectmen for 1751, were summoned. Ed.]

Province of New Hampshire. } In the House of Representatives February 22d 1753.

Upon hearing the within Petition of Alexander Park and others and the Respondents, and considering the evidence produced by the Partys—

Voted, That the choice of both sets of officers made at the annual meeting referred to in said Petition was illegal, and that the said choice be and hereby is declared to be null and void: And that there be a meeting held in the said Parish of Windham on the first Tuesday of March next for the choice of Parish officers for the year 1752, and that Peter Gilman, Esqr be and hereby is appointed & authorized to call the sd meeting and to be the moderator of said meeting, and that the said Peter Gilman Esqr put up or cause to be put up a notification of the time and place of meeting at the meeting house in said Windham and also at the dwelling house of John Christy Innholder in sd Windham, at least four days before the time of holding said meeting.

Matthew Livermore, clerk.

In Council, Febr 23, 1753.
read & concurred.
Theod. Atkinson, Secr.

In Council 26th Febr Consented to—
B. Wentworth.

Answer of Selectmen to the foregoing Petition.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth, Esqr Capt. General, Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New-Hampshire, the honorable his Majesty's Council and house of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

Samuel Campbell, George Davidson, Hugh Brown inhabitants of Windham in s^d Province, (who was Selectmen of the perrish of s^d Windham in the year 1751) who was by this honorable Court ordered to be served with a copy of a petition of some of the Inhabitants of s^d parrish, Dated the 2^d of February Instant to appear Before this honourable Counsel to shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the s^d Petition should not be Granted &c. The Respondents humbly *shew*—That the said petition is not genuin but groundless and fallacious in Divers Respects; as first, It is therein shown forth that at ye last anual meeting of s^d parrish there arose a Disput Relating to ye Right of Voting in s^d meeting and that ye Selectmen suffered sundry persons expressly exempted in the Act for ye Incorporating of Windham to Vote there; which asertion is intirely groundless and without any foundation—there being only five persons with their respective familys and Estates that were exempted in s^d Incorporation, and nether of them were present at s^d meeting.

2dly There Asertion in s^d petition that there was sundry others that were not Inhabitants nor Did not belong there, But were only occasionally there were alowed to vote there: which s^d asertion we utterly Deny.

3dly Whereas they set forth that a great number of ye Inhabitants there objected against such proceedings but to no purpose: Whereas there was not any that made any Legal or methodical objection against s^d meeting in any Respect, nor protested against the same in writing, that we might then have known what there objection was and Redrest their grivinces if in our power: which we humbly conceive they ought to have done.

4^thly As to the separat meetings there held as mentioned in s^d Petition, We understood it onely that a number being Disaffected that they could not carry there point in Voting, caviled at ye proceedings to embarras ye busnise of s^d parrish & in a heddy mabash way without any warrant held a sepperate meeting when they plainly see that a majority of ye Qualifed voters of s^d Parrish was against them, and after a number of ye s^d officers was chose declared and sworn they presumtously chose and Swore another set of officers as we humbly conceive with a design to render ye Busnesee of ye Day abortive by petiting to have both meetings Destroyed as illegal, knowing there own to be so.

5thly Whereas ye s^d petitioners set forth that they was doubtful on both sides as to their authority and that nether parties has acted in there offices, and the whole Busness of ye perrish in consiquence thereof hath been neglected to this time to the great Injury to ye minister and all other who have any concern with s^d perrish as well as the Inhabitants: To which your Respondents in fact say that indeed and in truth they Never knew that any was doubtful of there authority as to ye officers on the Respondents side except ye petitioners, and they onely on there own side, that that representation is so far from being truth, that the Busness of s^d perrish hath been carred on as usueal, and that there hath since s^d annual meeting been sundry meetings of the s^d perrish called by ye officers of ye opposite side from ye petition^rs and that there hath been Comitees chose for ye s^d perrish in Busness since then, of which some of the petition^rs hath been appointed and officiated therein, and that a Comitee was at a meeting since s^d anual meeting chose to settle acc^ts with our minister, of which one of s^d petitioners was one and served in that trust and the s^d minister is paid his dues in full by s^d parrish, and that ye Selectmen have since asesed ye Inhabatants of s^d parrish and that a considerable part of s^d assesment is paid:

That ye petitioners ten of them Belongs to Salem and that some of s^d petitioners are minors.

And that in the Number of the whole of the oposites there is not above eleven qualifyed Voters as we conceve of ye Law in that Respect: of all which your Respondents are reddy to aver: Wherefore your Respondents humbly pray; That your Excelency and honners would in your clemency and goodness take ye premises into your wise consideration and grant that ye s^d petition be no further sustained, and that ye s^d parrish be no longer disturbed and Distresed by such unnesary & unreasonable Disputs, and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

Saml Campbell
George Davidson
Hugh Brown.

February ye 12th, 1753.

In Council, Feby 14th 1753.
The annexed petition read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^bl House of Representatives.
Theodore Atkinson, Sec.

Deposition of Robert Hopkins.

Robert Hopkins of Windham in the Province of New Hampshire, of lawful age, testifies and says, That the same day of the Annual meeting for 1752, of Windham in the Province of New-Hampshire, after s^d meeting, David Archibald shewed me a Bond which David Gregg & two

moor Inhabitants on the West side of the Pond, had signed as Principle, with a large penal sum, that if he the s^d^ Archibald would vote for them & pay Province & Town Taxes with them, that they would pay for him or keep him clear from Minister Taxes for twenty years to come.

Robert Hopkins.

[Sworn to before Matthew Thornton, Justice of the Peace, February 20th 1753. Ed.]

Deposition of Samuel Barr.

Samuel Barr of Londonderry in the Province of New Hampshire of lawful age, testifies & says

That on or about the ninth of March A. D. 1752, he with many others, being at the annual meeting of Windham in the Province of New Hampshire & a dispute arising betwixt the Inhabitants and the Selectmen for the year 1752, the said Selectmen & clerk Refused the votes of Samuel Armer, Gaan Armer, John Dinsmoor, Francis Dinsmoor, Robert Spear, John Bolton, Andrew Armer, John Dinsmoor, jun. Michal Ferguson, James Twadwell, they being Inhabitants of the Town of Windham, incorporated by the three branches of the Legislature: The Selectmen & clerk afores^d^ excepted as voters, David Archibald, Samuel Archibald, James More, David More, they being inhabitants of the second Parish of Londonderry to which they pay Rates, & was exempted when s^d^ Windham was Incorporated: Also excepted as Voters Samuel M^c^Master, Charles Mellin, Joseph More, James Alexander, the last eight the Inhabitants of the easterly side of the Pond then urged were not legal Voters: David Archibald above s^d^ after the meeting told me that some men of the westerly side of the Pond gave him bond that if he was Rated in Windham they would pay his Rates; also that he was ashamed of what he had dun & ware it to do again he would not do it for his oxen.

Samuel Barr.

[Sworn to before Matthew Thornton, Just of the Peace, Feby 20th 1753. Ed.]

Petition relating to a Meeting-house.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, The Honble his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, in General Assembly Conven'd, Feby 20th 1754.

The Petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of the Westerly Part of the Parish of Windham in said Province humbly *shews:* That the Parish of Windham aforesaid was made by an Act of Assembly in or about the year 1742, by certain Boundaries set forth in the Act—a Part of which was after the Incorporation of the Township of Salem set off & made a part of that Township.

That before that was done, or the Line fixt between Salem & said Parish, the Inhabitants of said Windham not agreeing where they had best place their meeting house, they finally

agreed to chuse a Committee of indifferent Persons to Determine that matter:—which they did accordingly & the Comittee Resolved upon a proper place after having view'd the Parish, & Declared the same.

That the said Comittee determined the matter before the said Line between Salem & Windham was fixt as it now stands, as above mentioned, and tho' it might have been well with Respect to the whole of what was Windham by the said Act, yet by the taking off & annexing to Salem those Polls & Estates by the Last Line, that place which was near the center of the Parish before, was very ex-centrical afterwards.

That after all this a number of said Parish in a private way erected a meeting house at the place agreed upon [by] the said Comittee without regard to the Line last stated, and have lately obtain'd a vote (after it had been rejected at one meeting) that the Parish shou'd take or receive the said house & pay the charge of building the same.

That the said meeting-house is by no means conveniently situated as it now stands for the majority of the Parishioners considering the present extent of the Parish, but especially if it be considered that the greatest part of the future settlements in the Parish must be at the remotest part of the same from said house, and as it is likely there will be much contention in said Parish (already almost ruined by Divisions and Debates) about the place where said house had best be finally fix'd for it can't be that the majority shou'd long agree it shall stand where it is at present. Your Petitioners humbly pray that this matter may be put out of the power of said Parishioners to contend about, and for that purpose that a comittee of disinterested impartial persons may be appointed by the General Assembly to view said Parish & consider it in all circumstances as it now stands with respect to boundaries, as also with respect to the situation of the present Inhabitants & the Prospect of future settlements & additional inhabitants, and to determine upon the whole matter where it is proper the said meeting-House shou'd be placed and to make Report thereof as soon as may be: And the said House or another (if the Parish shall chuse rather to build a new one than Remove this which may be easily done) may be placed accordingly, and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

David Gregg
John Kyll
Wm. Gregg
Hugh Grayham
Thos Campbell
John Davidson
Arthur Grayham
George Davidson
John McCoy
Wm. Waugh
John Waddel
John Karr
Joseph Corning
John Grag
Hugh Clyde
John Kyl
John Clyde
Hugh Montgomery

Joseph Wagh
Hugh Bell
Joseph Clyde
Samuel Clyde
James Alexander
David Gregg
James Dunlap
Hugh Brown
Peter Patison
Nath[l] Hemphill
Rob[t] Hemphill
John Wilson
Alexander Dunlap
Henry Cambel
Thomas Richardson
Samuel Campel
James Betton
Henry Campbell, jun.
Samuel M[c]Master

[NOTE. On the above petition a hearing was granted: When, April 11[th] 1754, "Voted in the House that this Petition be dismissed." ED.]

Petition of Oliver Saunders.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq[r] Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, the Hon[bl]e his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened, Jan[y] 25[th] 1757.

The humble Petition of Oliver Saunders of Salem in said Province, yeoman, *shews:* That your petitioner on the 13[th] day of October 1756, exhibited a Petition to your Excellency & Honours relating to the Rates supposed to be wrongfully assess'd on sundry of the Inhabitants of said Salem in the manner set forth in said Petition, signed by himself & others aggrieved, on which a time was appointed for hearing of the Petitioners on their Petition, which they mistook and so lost the opportunity whereby the merit of their case has not been considered: Wherefore your Petitioner most Humbly prays That the said Petition may be revived that the Petitioners may be heard thereon and such measures pursued relative thereto as in your great Wisdom & Goodness you shall judge to be Right and your Petitioners in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

OLIVER SANDERS.

NOTE.—On the foregoing petition a hearing was granted, "on the second day of the sitting of the Gen[l] Assembly next after the 1st day of February," when, In the House of Representatives

Voted, That the prayer of this petition be granted & that the petitioners be exempted from paying any arrears of Province Tax to Salem before the year 1753, it appearing they had paid their province taxes to Windham from the year 1743 to 1752 (1).

(1) See Salem Town Papers. ED.

Deposition of John Dinsmoor.

The Deposition of John Dinsmoor of Lawful Age, doth testifie & say that the persons hereafter named, were and are Inhabitants dwelling within the bounds of Londonderry According as Mr. Bryant run the Lines, viz:

John Ober, jun.
Robert Spear
Timothy Sanders
Samuel Armour
Andrew Balch
John Dinsmoor
Oliver Kimbal
Israel Ober
Ebenezer Woodbury
George Corning
John Corning
John Hall
John Hall 3d
Robt Ellenwood
Abial Pitman
John Giles
John Ober
William Sanders
John Ashby
Oliver Sanders
William Leach
Nathl Woodbury
Israel Woodbury
Joshua Thorndike
Moses Morgan
Edward Bayley
Jonathan Woodbury
Wid. Judith Corning
Samuel Crowel
Hugh Campbell
James Twaddell
Jonathan Morgan

Attest, John Dinsmoor.

[Sworn to before Daniel Peaslee, Just. Peace, Jany 20th, 1757. Ed.]

[Similar Depositions were made by Samuel Moran, Daniel Dow, Alexander Park and Francis Smiley and Sworn to before Daniel Peaslee, Just. Peace, Jany 19th, Jany 20th, Jany 31st, 1757. Ed.]

A List of those men that now live in Salem which formerly lived in the Parish of Windham and paid their Province Tax to sd Windham: viz.

Samuel Armor
Robert Spear
John Dinsmoor
Francis Dinsmoor
Wm. Sanders
John Ashby
Ebr Woodbury
George Corning
Oliver Sanders
John Ober
Israel Ober
John Corning
Robert Elinwood
John Woodbury
John Hall
Oliver Kimbel
Edward Baley
John Giles
Wm. Leach
John Hill
Nathl Woodbury
Abiall Pitman
John Ober, jun
Moses Morgan
Jons Morgan
Joshua Thorndike
Andrew Balch

A true Copy given under my hand at ye Parish of Windham, Jany ye 19th 1757. by me,

Francis X Smiley.
mark.

WOLFEBOROUGH.

[Was incorporated in 1770.]

Petition for Incorporation.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr Capt. General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province aforesaid, and the Honorable his Majesty's Council for said Province:

The Humble Petition of Ammi Ruhamah Cutter, Physician and John Parker, Merch^{t} both of Portsmouth in said Province as a Committee of the Proprietors of *Wolfeborough* in said Province *shews*:—

That there are in the Township of Wolfeborough upwards of Thirty Families settled and more coming to settle there, which makes an Incorporation necessary in order to transact their common affairs with ease & dispatch, and in that case many wou'd be induced to settle there, who would be backward without that advantage.

That the Proprietors aforesaid are desirous of obtaining this Privilege as it will enable them to carry on the settlement with more Regularity and enable them to carry into Execution any of their Resolutions in which all are concerned, with Justice as well as with dispatch, and have therefore chosen your Petitioners with another person now absent to apply to your Excellency & the Honble Council for this purpose.

Wherefore they humbly Pray that the said Inhabitants & Proprietors may be Incorporated with the usual Franchises, Privileges & Emoluments: that they be authorized & Intitled to use the Powers with which other Corporations are Invested, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall pray &c.

A. R. Cutter
Jno Parker } Comm^{tee}.

Portsmouth, July 9th 1770.

Minutes.

9th July 1770
Wolfeboro' Petition for Incorporation,
Granted.
Accepted on my part, J'W.
Charter to be prepar'd
Annual Fair or Mart
1st Tuesday following 21st Sept.

To call 1st Town meeting
Mr. Jonathan Rindge.
1st Meeting 21st Sept.
Annual meeting
last Tuesday in M'ch.

ADDENDA.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

Readers of the foregoing Papers relating to Towns, will have noticed that no mention is made of a very considerable number of Towns in the State, some of which hold an important place in our history. In relation to some of the towns thus omitted, the reason may be, that they never had occasion to make application to the Legislature by petition or otherwise; or that making such application, the Papers were not preserved or have not been found: Other towns are of modern date, i. e. subsequent to 1784, and therefore not properly included in this volume. The Editor, however, has carefully printed every paper which he has found on file or on record, relating to early towns. The following notices of towns omitted, are given as supplementary;—the facts stated being derived from such authorities and documents as were accessible to the Editor (1).

Towns not included among the foregoing Papers.

Alexandria, granted March 13, 1767; incorporated, Nov. 23, 1782; its first settlement was made in December 1769, by Jonathan, John M. and William Corliss.

Allenstown, so named from Gov. Samuel Allen, the purchaser of Mason's claim; the tract was reserved for Allen's children. (See Prov. Pap. Vol. 4, p. 42.) A settlement was begun by John Wolcutt, Andrew Smith, Daniel Evans, Robert Buntin and others, about 1740.

Andover was granted by the Masonian proprietors in 1746, to Edmund Brown and others, and was called New Breton in honor of the capture of Cape Breton, 1745. It was incorporated, with its present name, June 25, 1779.

Antrim derives its name from a county of that name in Ireland—the original settlers being mostly of the Scotch-Irish stock that settled Londonderry in 1719. The first settlement was made by Dea. James Aiken, about 1768; it was incorporated, March 22, 1777.

Barnstead was granted May 20, 1727. Settlements commenced in 1767.

Bath. The original charter of Bath was granted Sept. 10, 1761, to Rev. Andrew Gardner and 61 others. It was re-chartered to John Sawyer and others, in March 1769, on the ground of the forfeiture of the first charter; settlement was made in 1765, by John Harriman, from Haverhill, Ms.

Bradford was granted to John Pierce and George Jaffrey, in ——? Settlement was made in 1771, by Dea. William Presbury or Presby. Incorporated Sept. 27, 1787.

Bridgewater formerly comprised the whole of New Chester (now Hill), Bridgewater and Bristol; the first settlement was made in 1766, by Thomas Crawford, Esq. Bristol was taken from Bridgewater and

(1) Much reliance has been placed on statements found in the N. H. Gazetteer, by Farmer & Moore, 1823. Ed.

New Chester; first settlement, about 1770, by Col. Peter Sleeper, Benj. Emmons and others.

BROOKLINE was formerly a part of old Dunstable. It was incorporated March 30, 1769, by the name of RABY. The name was altered in November, 1798.

BENTON was granted Nov. 6, 1766, to Clement March, Joseph Senter and others.

CAMPTON was granted in Oct. 1761, to Capt. Jabez Spencer of East Haddam, Ct.; first settlement made in 1765, by two families of the name of Fox and Taylor; it derives its name from a *camp* built by the first surveyors of the town.

CANAAN was granted by charter, July 9, 1761, to 62 persons, mostly from Connecticut, and took its name from Canaan in that State. The settlement was begun in the winter of 1766–7, by John Scofield, who, it is said, drew his effects from Connecticut river by hand-sled, 14 miles, over a crust of snow.

CANDIA was originally a part of the township of Chester, incorporated Dec. 17, 1763; said to have been named by Gov. Benning Wentworth, who was once a prisoner on the island of Candia (the ancient Crete). A settlement was begun as early as 1748, by William Turner; and in 1755, by John Sargent and a few others.

CENTRE-HARBOUR, or rather *Senter* Harbour, so named for Col. Joseph Senter, a prominent man, who settled there in 1767.

CHATHAM was originally granted to Col. Peter Livius and others, Feb. 7, 1767.

CLAREMONT was granted October 26, 1764, to Josiah Willard, Samuel Ashley and 68 others; it received its name from the country seat of Lord Clive, an English general; a settlement was begun in 1762, by Moses Spofford and David Lynde; in 1767, new settlers came in from Connecticut. The early settlers were about equally divided as Episcopalians and Congregationalists.

COLEBROOK was originally granted to Sir George Colebrook—and hence the name; incorporated 1790.

COVENTRY was granted January 31, 1764, but not settled till after the commencement of the Revolutionary war.

DANBURY was first settled in Nov. 1771, but not incorporated till June 18, 1795.

EAST KINGSTON was incorporated Nov. 17, 1738. Among the early settlers were William and Abraham Smith, who settled near the center of the town.

EFFINGHAM, formerly *Leavitts-town*, was settled a few years before the Revolution.

ELLSWORTH, formerly called *Trecothick*, was granted May 1, 1769.

ENFIELD, formerly called *Relhan*, was incorporated by charter, granted to Jedediah Dana and others, July 4, 1761.

ERROL, granted Feb. 28, 1774.

FITZWILLIAM, formerly Monadnock, No. 4, incorporated May 19, 1773, and took its present name from the Earl of Fitzwilliam, Eng.

GILFORD was formerly a part of Gilmanton; it was settled in June, 1778, by James Ames and S. S. Gilman, but not incorporated until June 16, 1812.

GRAFTON was granted Aug. 4, 1761, to Ephraim Sherman and others; first settlement was made in May, 1772, by Capt. Joseph Hoyt, from

Poplin. Capt. Alexander Pixley and wife were the second family which settled there.

GREENFIELD was first settled in 1771, by Capt. Alexander Parker, Major A. Whittemore, Simeon Fletcher and others; and was incorporated June 15, 1791.

HANCOCK, so named in honor of Hon. John Hancock, of Boston, who was one of the original proprietors, was incorporated Nov. 5, 1779. A settlement was begun there by John Grimes in May, 1764.

HAVERHILL was known in early times by the name of the *Lower Cohos*. It was granted by charter May 18, 1764, to John Hazen and 94 others; Mr. Hazen began the settlement the same year on what is called Little Ox Bow. The first court was held there Oct. 21, 1773; Rev. Peter Powers, from Hollis, was settled as the first minister in 1765.

HAWKE, now Danville, derived its name from Admiral Hawke of the British navy; was incorporated Feb. 22, 1760; but settlements were made by Jacob Hook, Jonathan Sanborn and others, as early as 1735–1739.

HENNIKER was first granted by the Masonian Proprietors under the name of *Number 6*, to James and Robert Wallace and others from Londonderry; settlement commenced in 1761; incorporated Nov. 10, 1768, and called Henniker, by Gov. John Wentworth, in honor of his friend, John Henniker, a merchant in London and member of the British parliament. This town was formerly classed with Hillsborough.

KEENE, whose original name was *Upper Ashuelot*, was incorporated April 11, 1753, by its present name, in honor of Sir Benjamin Keene, British minister in Spain, and contemporary with Gov. Benning Wentworth, who in early life visited that country. Settlements were begun as early as 1736; being a frontier town, it was repeatedly attacked by Indians.

LANGDON, so named in honor of Gov. John Langdon of New Hampshire, was first settled by Seth Walker in 1773; by Nathaniel Rice and Jonathan Willard in 1774; but it was not incorporated until Jan. 11, 1787.

LEBANON was granted July 4, 1761, to sixty-two proprietors from Norwich, Mansfield and Lebanon, Ct.,—friends and some of them parishioners of Dr. Eleazer Wheelock; this was the first town settled on Connecticut river north of Charlestown, No. 4. A Congregational church was formed in 1771, and Rev. Isaiah Potter installed in 1772.

LEE was originally a part of Durham, and was incorporated Jan. 16, 1766.

LINCOLN was granted Jan. 31, 1764, to James Avery and others, but not settled till after the Revolution.

LOUDON was formerly a part of Canterbury; was incorporated Jan. 23, 1773; but settlements had been made in 1760, by Abraham and Jethro Bachelder and Moses Ordway. It derived its name from the Earl of Loudon, Eng.

LYMAN was granted to Daniel Lyman and others, Nov. 10, 1761.

MANCHESTER, formerly known as *Derry-field* (which was incorporated Sept. 3, 1751,) was formed from a part of Londonderry and a part of Chester. It was famous in early times for a fishing place at the Amoskeag Falls; was incorporated by its present name in 1810, and is now distinguished as the most populous and opulent city in New Hampshire.

MARLBOROUGH, formerly Monadnock, No. 5, was granted by charter April 29, 1751, to Timothy Dwight, Esq., of Northampton, Ms., and 61 others; the charter was renewed Sept. 21, 1764. Settlement was begun about 1760 by a Mr. McAlister, William Barker, Abel Woodward, Benj* Tucker and Daniel Goodenough; and the town was incorporated Dec. 13, 1776.

MASON, formerly known as *Number 1*, and settled as early as 1751, was granted by charter Aug. 26, 1768.

MEREDITH was first called *New Salem*, and was incorporated Dec. 30, 1768.

MIDDLETON was incorporated March 4, 1778; the first settlers were from Lee and Rochester, N. H.

MILFORD was formerly known as the *South West Parish* of Amherst. It was not incorporated with its present name till Jan. 11, 1794.

MONT VERNON was originally a part of Amherst; its settlement commenced early, but it was not incorporated as a distinct town till Dec. 15, 1803.

MOULTONBOROUGH was granted by the Masonian proprietors, Nov. 17, 1763, to Col. Jonathan Moulton and 61 others, principally from Hampton; settlements commenced the next year.

NELSON was formerly known as *Monadnock, No. 6;* it was granted by the Masonian proprietors, and chartered Feb. 22, 1774, by the name of *Packersfield*, from Thomas Packer, who owned about one half of it. It took the name of Nelson in June, 1814.

NEW CHESTER (now HILL, in honor of Gov. Isaac Hill,) was granted Sept. 14, 1753, to 87 proprietors; the first settlement was in 1768, and incorporated Nov. 20, 1778.

NEW HAMPTON was incorporated Nov. 27, 1777, and called *New* Hampton at the desire of Col. Jonathan Moulton, an original proprietor from Hampton. There is a tradition that Col. Moulton, in 1763, having an ox weighing 1400 pounds, fattened for the purpose, hoisted a flag upon his horns and drove him to Portsmouth as a present to Gov. Benning Weutworth, asking only of the Governor as a favor, to have a grant of a Gore of land lying near the town of Moultonborough—which, the record shows, was granted.

NEWINGTON is one of the old historic places or parishes of the State. It was embraced in what is called the *Squamscut* or *Hilton's* point *Patent;* and in it was was the *Bloody Point.* A part of Newington was claimed to lye in Dover and a part in Portsmouth. The name Newington was given by Gov. Dudley May 12, 1714; its bounds were settled July 28, 1714, at which time it was called a Parish. It had town privileges as early as 1737; but when incorporated, is not definitely ascertained. The late John Farmer, Esq., said it was in July, 1764. [See Prov. Pap. Vol. 3, pp. 562, 574, 586, 587, Vol. 4, pp. 824-826.]

NEW LONDON, first called *Dantsick*, was incorporated June 25, 1779; a settlement, however, was begun by Nathaniel Merrill and James Lamb, Eliphalet Lyon and Ebenezer Hunting, probably as early as 1775.

NORTH HAMPTON was formerly a parish in Hampton, known as *North Hill.* Settlements were early begun, and it was incorporated as a distinct township, Nov. 26, 1742.

NORTHUMBERLAND was first settled about 1767, by Thomas Burnside and Daniel Spaulding; it was incorporated Nov. 16, 1779.

NORTHWOOD, originally a part of Nottingham, was settled March 25,

1763, by Moses Godfrey, John Bachelder, Increase Bachelder, from North Hampton; and Solomon Bickford from Durham, in December, the same year.

ORANGE was granted by the name of *Cardigan*, Feb. 6, 1769, to Isaac Fellows and others. Its settlement commenced in 1773-4, by Silas Harris, Benjamin Shaw, David Eames, Col. Elisha Bayne and Capt. Joseph Kenney.

PLAINFIELD was granted August 14, 1761, and was settled in 1764, by L. Nash and J. Russell. The name is derived from a town in Connecticut where the proprietors held their first meeting.

POPLIN, now called Fremont, was incorporated June 22, 1764.

RAYMOND was originally a part of Chester, called *Charming-fare*. It was made a distinct parish in 1762, and incorporated as a town, May 9, 1765.

RICHMOND was granted to Joseph Blanchard and others, Feb. 28, 1752, and settled within five or six years afterwards by people from Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

SANDOWN was originally a part of Kingston, and was incorporated April 6, 1756.

SANDWICH was originally granted by Gov. Benning Wentworth, Oct. 25, 1763, six miles square. On the 5th Sept. 1764, an additional grant was made to the territory on the east and south, called Sandwich Addition.

SEABROOK was formerly a part of Hampton Falls. Settlements commenced here in 1638, by Christopher Hussey, Joseph Dow and Thomas Philbrick. It was granted June 3, 1768, to Jonathan Weare, John Moulton and others. A Presbyterian society was formed here in 1764.

SPRINGFIELD was granted Jan. 3, 1769, by the name of *Protectworth*, to John Fisher, Daniel Warner and 58 others. Its first settlement was made in 1772, by Israel Clifford and son, Nathaniel Clark, Samuel Stevens and others. It was not incorporated by its present name till Jan. 24, 1794.

STODDARD was formerly called *Limerick;* a settlement begun in June, 1769, by John Taggard, Reuben Walton, Richard Richardson, Amos Butterfield, Joseph Dodge and Oliver Parker. It was incorporated Nov. 4, 1774, by the name of Stoddard, in honor of Col. Samson Stoddard of Chelmsford, Ms., an original grantee.

STRATFORD was incorporated Nov. 16, 1779.

SURRY was originally a part of Gilsum and Westmoreland; was incorporated March 9, 1769, deriving its name from Surry in England; a settlement was begun by Peter Hayward in 1764.

SUTTON was granted in 1749, by the Masonian proprietors, and first called *Perrys-town*, from Obadiah Perry, an original and principal proprietor; a settlement was commenced in 1767, by David Peaslee.

TAMWORTH was granted Oct. 14, 1766, to John Webster, Jonathan Moulton and others, and was settled in 1771, by Richard Jackman, Jonathan Choate, David Philbrick and William Eastman.

TEMPLE is the easterly part of what was called *Peterborough Slip*—incorporated Aug. 26, 1768.

THORNTON is understood to derive its name from Hon. Matthew Thornton; it was granted July 6, 1763, to Matthew, James and Andrew Thornton and others; settlement made in 1770, by Benjamin Hoyt; and it was incorporated Nov. 8, 1781.

TUFTONBOROUGH was granted to J. Tufton Mason, from whom the name; was settled about 1780, but not incorporated till Dec. 17, 1795.

UNITY was granted by charter July 13, 1764, to Theodore Atkinson, Meshech Weare, and 45 others—called *Unity* from the termination of a long dispute between claimants in Kingston and Hampstead. Settlement was begun in 1769, by John Ladd and Moses Thurston.

WALPOLE was first known by the name of *Great Fall;* its first settlement was made in 1749 by Col. Benjamin Bellows; it was granted to Col. Bellows and 61 others, Feb. 16, 1752. For some time it was a border town exposed to the attacks of Indians, but was bravely defended.

WARREN was granted by charter July 14, 1763.

WASHINGTON was first known as *Monadnock, No. 8;* was granted by the Masonian proprietors to Reuben Kidder of New Ipswich, who began a settlement in 1768. and was called *Camden* till Dec. 13, 1776, when it took the name of Washington.

WENDELL, now *Sunapee*, was granted by the name of *Saville*, Nov 7, 1768; settled by emigrants from Rhode Island in 1772, and incorporated April 4, 1781, deriving its name from John Wendell, a principal proprietor.

WHITEFIELD was granted July 4, 1744, to Josiah Moody and others, and soon after settled by Major Burns and others—the name, probably, for Rev. George Whitefield, who preached in New England about that time.

WILMOT. The greater part of Wilmot was originally included in a grant made by the Masonian proprietors in 1775 to Jonas Minot, Matthew Thornton and others. It was not incorporated till June 18, 1807.

FINIS.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS

IN NEW HAMPSHIRE,

1778-1783;

WITH THE

CONSTITUTION ESTABLISHED IN 1784.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS.

NOTES BY THE EDITOR.

The Editor is happy to lay before the people of New Hampshire, in this closing volume of Provincial and State Papers,—which he has had the honor to compile, edit and publish, by authority of the Legislature,—a connected statement of the facts, with all the documents which he has been able to find, relating to the Conventions which were successively called, and which resulted in the adoption of a State Constitution, October 31st, 1783, that was carried into full effect, June 10th, 1784.

The *first* Constitution of New Hampshire was adopted soon after the Revolution began, January 5th, 1776; it was not designed or understood to be permanent, but "to continue during the present unhappy and unnatural contest with Great Britain." A copy of this is printed in full in Volume VIII. of the Provincial and State Papers, pages 2–5, to which reference may be made. The Constitution then adopted is believed to be the *first* adopted by any Colony or State in the Union. It was to continue in force through the war; or until superseded by a new Constitution. In December 27, 1777, the House voted to recommend to towns and parishes in the State, to instruct their Representatives to call a Convention "for the sole purpose of forming and laying a permanent plan or system for the future Government of the State." This vote does not appear to have been concurred by the Council; but February 20th, 1778, The House voted to resolve themselves into a Committee of the whole, to join the honorable Board, if they see fit, to consider "of the calling a full and free representation of all the people of this State for the sole purpose of forming a permanent Plan or system for the future government of this State:" and February 25th, 1778, the Assembly, in Committee of the whole, Hon. Meshech Weare in the Chair, agreed to report, "That a full and free representation of all the people of the State be called, for the purpose above expressed, to meet in Convention at Concord, on the second Wednesday (10th) in June;" that when the said Convention have formed such plan of Government, they lay the same before their constituents for their approbation: and that it should not go into effect until three quarters of the people of this State shall consent thereto. On the next day, 26th February, the abovesaid Report was adopted; and the Convention of delegates chosen by the respective towns and parishes, for the abovesaid purpose met in Concord, on the day appointed, June 10th, 1778 (1).

(1) For the facts here stated, see State Papers, Vol. VIII. pp. 737, 738, 774, 775. Ed.

It is much to be regretted, that the JOURNAL of that Convention cannot any where be found. Search was made in vain for it by the late John Farmer, Esq., and by Mr. G. Parker Lyon, as also by the Editor of this volume: Mr. Lyon was at the great pains, however, of collecting the names of the Delegates to that Convention from the Town Records, respectively, throughout the State. The following is the list of names as thus collected by him (1).

LIST OF DELEGATES

Chosen from the several towns, classed towns, and places in New Hampshire, in 1778, to meet at Concord, June 10th, for the purpose of forming a new Constitution.

Towns.	*Delegates.*
Portsmouth,	John Langdon George King George Gaines Samuel Cutts William Whipple
Exeter,	Nathaniel Folsom Samuel Hubbard John Pickering
Londonderry,	Matthew Thornton John Bell
Chester,	Samuel Emerson
Kensington,	Ezekiel Worthen
Stratham,	Benjamin Barker Mark Wiggin
Brentwood,	Voted not to send
Kingston, &c.,	Samuel Philbrick, deceased, and Josiah Bartlett was chosen.
North Hampton,	Levi Dearborn
New Market,	None sent
Epping,	Enoch Coffin Simon Dearborn
Hampton Falls, &c.,	Nath'l H. Dodge
Hampton,	None sent
Greenland,	William Weeks
Sandown and Hawke,	Jethro Sanborn, probably.
South Hampton and Newtown,	Robert Stewart
Nottingham,	Voted not to send
Rye,	Joseph Parsons
Newington,	Richard Dame
New-Castle,	Information not received
Hampstead,	None chosen
Raymond and Poplin,	John Dudley
Atkinson and Plaistow,	Joseph Welch
Deerfield and Northwood,	Simon Marston Richard Jenness
Candia,	John Sargent
Salem,	Moody Morse

(1) See N. H. Register, 1852, pp. 18-21. ED.

Epsom, &c., &c.,	John McClary
Windham,	None sent
Pelham,	James Barnard
Canterbury and Loudon,	Archelaus More
Pembroke,	Samuel Daniell Richard Bartlett
Concord,	Timothy Walker
Bow and Dunbarton,	Jeremiah Page
Litchfield and Nottingham West,	William Burns John Parker
Merrimack and Bedford,	Solomon Hutchinson
Derryfield and Goffstown,	None sent
Dunstable,	Benjamin French William Hunt
Amherst,	Reuben Mussey Moses Nichols
Hollis,	Enoch Noyes Noah Worcester
Hopkinton,	Stephen Harriman
New Boston and Francestown,	Archibald McMillen
Weare,	Samuel Caldwell
Wilton, Lyndeboro', &c.,	Moses Putnam
Mason and Roby,	David Blodgett
New Ipswich,	Timothy Farrar
Temple and Peterborough,	Francis Blood
Henniker and Hillsborough,	Isaac Andrews
Salisbury and Boscawen,	George Jackman
New Bretton, Warner, Perryston, and Fisherfield,	None sent
New Durham, &c., and Wolfborough,	Voted not to send
Durham,	Ebenezer Thompson
Lee,	Information not received
Madbury,	James Davis, Jr.
Dover,	John Gage Caleb Hodgdon
Somersworth,	Town Rec. burnt, 1812
Rochester,	Information not received
Barrington,	Information not received
Gilmanton and Barnstead,	Joseph Badger
Wakefield, Middleton, and Leavittstown,	None sent
Meredith and Sanbornton,	Ebenezer Smith

Sandwich, Tamworth, and Moultonborough,	None sent
Rindge, Jaffrey, and Peterborough Slip,	Enoch Hale Phineas Spaulding
Dublin, Marlborough, Stoddard, Packersfield, &c.,	None sent
Keene,	Jeremiah Stiles
Swanzey and Fittzwilliam,	Calvin Frink
Westmorland,	Information not received
Richmond,	Oliver Capron
Winchester,	Daniel Ashley
Walpole,	Benjamin Bellows
Hinsdale and Chesterfield,	None sent
Marlow, Surry, and Alstead,	None sent
Charlestown,	Samuel Hunt
Claremont,	None sent
Acworth, Lempster, Savill, Croydon, Unity, and Newport,	Samuel Silsby Benjamin Giles
Cornish, Protectworth, Plainfield, and Grantham,	None sent
Plymouth, Cockermouth, Alexandria, and New Chester,	Francis Worcester
Rumney, Holderness, Campton, and Thornton,	William Baker
Orford,	None sent
Haverhill, Lyman, Gunthwait, Landaff, Bath, and Morristown,	None sent
Lancaster, Northumberland, Apthorp, Stratford, Colburn, Cockburn, Conway, Shelburne, &c.,	None sent

Hanover, Canaan, and Cardigan,	None sent
Lebanon, Relham, and Grafton,	None sent
Wentworth, Dorchester, Lyme, Warren, and Piermont,	Obadiah Clement of Warren, (probably)

NOTE. The next meeting of this Constitutional Convention was at Concord, June 5th, 1779:—at which time, a Constitution was agreed upon and sent out to the people for their adoption. The copy of the Constitution, from which this is transcribed, is printed on both sides of a half-sheet of large size, and issued from the Press of Zechariah Fowle, in Exeter, 1779. It is the only copy of the original print which the Editor has found, and is as follows (1):

[THE CONSTITUTION PROPOSED IN 1779.]

A DECLARATION OF RIGHTS, AND PLAN OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

WHEREAS, by the tyrannical administration of the government of the King and Parliament of Great Britain, this State of New Hampshire, with the other United States of America, have been necessitated to reject the British government, and declare themselves *Independent States*—all which is more largely set forth by the Continental Congress, in their resolution or Declaration of the fourth of July, A. D. 1776:

And whereas, it is recommended by the said Continental Congress to each and every of the said United States to establish a form of government most conducive to the welfare thereof: We the delegates of the said State of New Hampshire, chosen for the purpose of forming a permanent plan of government subject to the revisal of our constituents, have composed the following *Declaration of Rights and Plan of Government;* and recommend the same to our constituents for their approbation.

A Declaration of the Rights of the People of the State of New Hampshire.

1st. WE declare, that we the people of the State of New

(1) See a copy also in Coll. of N. H. Hist. Soc. Vol: 4, pp. 156-161. ED.

Hampshire, are free and independent of the Crown of Great Britain.

2d. We the people of this State, are entitled to life, liberty and property; and all other immunities and privileges which we heretofore enjoyed.

3d. The common and statute laws of England, adopted and used here; and the laws of the State (not inconsistent with said Declaration of Independence) now are, and shall be in force here, for the welfare and good government of the State, unless the same shall be repealed or altered by the future legislature thereof.

4th. The whole and entire power of government of this State, is vested in, and must be derived from the people thereof, and from no other source whatsoever.

5th. The future legislature of this State, shall make no laws to infringe the rights of conscience, or any other of the natural, unalienable Rights of Men, or contrary to the laws of GOD, or against the Protestant religion.

6th. The extent of territory of this State, is, and shall be the same which was under the government of the late Gov. John Wentworth, Esq. Governor of New Hampshire. Reserving, nevertheless, our claim to the New Hampshire Grants, so called, situated to the west of Connecticut river.

7th. The right of trial by jury in all cases as heretofore used in this State, shall be preserved inviolate forever.

A PLAN OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

1st. The State of New Hampshire shall be governed by a Council, and House of Representatives, to be chosen as herein after mentioned, and to be styled the *General Court* of the State of New Hampshire.

2d. The Council shall consist for the present of twelve members, to be elected out of the several counties in the State, in proportion to their respective number of inhabitants.

3d. The numbers belonging to each county for the present, according to said proportion being as followeth, viz.—To the county of Rockingham, five—to the county of Strafford, two—to the county of Hillsborough, two—to the county of Cheshire, two—to the county of Grafton, one.

4th. The number for the county of Rockingham, shall not be increased or diminished hereafter, but remain the same, and the numbers for the other counties shall be increased or diminished as their aforesaid proportion to the county of Rockingham may chance to vary.

5th. The House of Representatives shall be chosen as follows. Every town or parish, choosing town officers, amounting to one hundred families and upwards, shall send one representative for each hundred families they consist of, (or such lesser number as they please) or class themselves with some other towns or parishes that will join in sending a representative.

6th. All other towns and parishes under the number of one hundred families, shall have liberty to class themselves together to make the number of one hundred families or upwards, and being so classed, each class shall send one representative.

7th. The number of Counsellors belonging to each county shall be ascertained and done by the General Court every time there is a new proportion made of the State tax, which shall be once in seven years at the least, and oftener if need be.

8th. All male inhabitants of the State of lawful age, paying taxes, and professing the protestant religion, shall be deemed legal voters in choosing counsellors and representatives, and having an estate of three hundred pounds, equal to silver at six shillings and eight pence per ounce, one half at least whereof to be real estate, and lying within this State, with the qualifications aforesaid, shall be capable of being elected.

9th. The selectmen of each respective town and parish, choosing town officers containing one hundred families or upwards, and also of each respective class of towns classed together as aforesaid, shall notify the legal voters of their respective towns, parishes, or classes, qualified as aforesaid, in the usual way of notifying town meetings, giving fifteen days notice at least, to meet at some convenient place on the last Wednesday of November annually, to choose counsellors and representatives.

10th. And the voters being met, and the moderator chosen, shall proceed to choose their representative or representatives, required by this constitution by a majority of the voters present, who shall be notified accordingly, and a return thereof made into the Secretary's office, by the first Wednesday of January then next.

11th. And such representatives shall be paid their wages by their constituents, and for their travel by the State.

12th. And in the choice of counsellors, each voter shall deliver his vote to the moderator for the number of counsellors respectively required, with the word counsellors written thereon, and the voters name endorsed to prevent duplicity.

13th. These votes shall be sealed up by the moderator, and transmitted by the constable to one of the justices of the Infe-

rior Court of Common Pleas for the county, before the second Wednesday in December next following.

14th. And the said justices of the Inferior Court shall meet together on the said second Wednesday of December annually, to count the votes, and the persons that have most votes to the number of counsellors required, shall be declared duly elected, and shall be notified by the said justices accordingly, and a return thereof shall be made by them into the secretary's office by the first Wednesday in January annually.

15th. And in case any two persons shall have a like number of votes, the said justices may determine the choice in favor of which they please.

16th. The Council and House of Representatives so chosen and returned as aforesaid, shall meet on the first Wednesday in January next after their being chosen, at such place as the present, or future General Court may from time to time appoint: and being duly sworn, shall hold their respective places until the first Wednesday in January then next.

17th. The council shall choose their president, vice-president, and Secretary; and the house of representatives shall choose their speaker and clerk.

18th. The council and house of representatives respectively, shall determine all disputed elections of their own members, regulate their own proceedings; and on any vacancy, order a new election to fill up such vacancy.

19th. The said General Court elected and constituted as aforesaid, shall be invested with the supreme power of the State. And all acts, resolves, or votes, except grants of money, lands, or other things may originate in either house; but such grants shall originate in the house of representatives only.

20th. The said council and house of representatives respectively, shall have power to adjourn themselves from day to day, but not longer than two days at any one time, without concurrence of the other.

21st. The President of the council shall hold public correspondence with other States, or persons; call the council together when occasion shall require; and with advice of three or more of the council shall from time to time call the General Court together if need be, before the time they were adjourned to; and also point out the principal business of their session.

22d. The military and naval power of the State shall be regulated, and all proper officers thereof appointed, as the legislature by law shall direct from time to time.

23d. The judges of the superior and inferior courts, judges

of probate, judges of admiralty, judge of the maratime court, justices of the peace, sheriffs, coroners, attorney general, treasurer of the state, and delegates to the Continental Congress, shall be appointed by the said General Court, and commissionated by the president of the council.

24th. The appointment of registers of deeds, county treasurers, clerks of courts, registers of probate, and all other civil officers whatsoever, not before mentioned, shall be regulated by the laws that now are, or that hereafter may be enacted.

25th. All civil officers of the State, shall be suitably compensated by fees or salaries for their services.

26th. No member of the General Court shall be judge of the superior court, or inferior court, judge or register of probate, or sheriff of any county, or treasurer of the State or attorney general, or delegate at the Continental Congress.

27th. And no member of the council, judge of the superior court, or sheriff, shall hold a commission in the militia, army, or navy of this State.

28th. No member of the house of representatives shall hold any salary under the government.

29th. The president of the council, with advise of council, may grant reprieves not longer than six months, but the General Court only shall have power to pardon offenses against the State.

30th. A quorum of the council, and a quorum of the house of representatives, shall consist of a majority of each house.

31st. This Declaration of Rights and Plan of Government, shall have the force of law, and be esteemed the fundamental law of this State.

32d. The General Court shall have no power to alter any part of this Constitution; but in case they should concur in any proposed alteration, amendment, or addition, the same being agreed to by a majority of the people, shall become valid.

State of New Hampshire. In Convention, June, 5th, 1779.

Voted, that the foregoing Bill of Rights, and Plan of Government, be printed, and dispersed throughout this State, for the people thereof, to give their opinion thereon.

Voted, that Colonel Thornton and Colonel Bartlett, be a committee to get this plan of government printed, and transmit two or more copies of the same to each and every town, parish and place in this State, to which precepts for this convention were sent, and publish the same in the New Hampshire newspapers.

Voted, That the selectmen of the several towns, parishes, and districts in this State, upon the receipt of the same, are desired to notify and warn the legal inhabitants paying taxes in such town, parish, or place, to meet at some suitable place therein, giving them at least fifteen days notice, for the purpose of taking said plan under consideration; and make return of the number of voters present at such meeting, and how many voted for receiving said plan, and how many for rejecting the same, unto this convention at Concord, in this State, on the third Tuesday in September next.

By order of the Convention,

JOHN LANGDON, President, P. T.

E. THOMPSON, Secretary.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

The foregoing Constitution, which, according to order, was sent out to the people, was rejected: The state of the votes upon it, the Editor has not been able to find.

THE SECOND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

NOTE.

On the 28th of March, 1781, the House of Representatives voted to call another Convention to "settle a Form of Government," and that a Committee be appointed, to join a Committee of the Board, to form and issue a suitable Precept to the towns, for that purpose; which vote was concurred by the Board; and on the 6th of April, 1781, a joint Resolve was adopted that the said Convention should meet at Concord, the first Tuesday of June, next (1).

The Journal of that Convention has not been found; but fortunately the late Mr. G. Parker Lyon obtained a list of Delegates, which is presumed to be correct: (see N. H. Reg. 1852, pp. 22–25). The names of the Delegates chosen are as follows:

Towns.	*Delegates.*
Portsmouth,	George Atkinson
"	John Langdon
"	Ammi Ruhami Cutter
"	John Pickering
"	Jona. Mitchell Sewall
Exeter,	Nathaniel Folsom
"	John Taylor Gilman
Londonderry,	Archibald McMurphy
Chester,	None sent
Hampton Falls,	Nathaniel H. Dodge
Brentwood,	Voted not to send
Stratham,	Mark Wiggin

(1) See State Pap. Vol. VIII. pp. 894–897. ED.

North Hampton,	Abraham Drake
Kensington,	Voted not to send
Hampton,	None sent
New Market,	None sent
Epping,	Voted not to send
So. Hampton,	Voted not to send
Kingston,	None sent
E. Kingston,	None sent
Greenland,	Voted not to send
Nottingham,	Joseph Cilley
Hawke, and Sandown,	Robert Collins
Newington,	Ephraim Pickering
Rye,	Joseph Parsons, or Nathan Goss
Atkinson, & Plaistow,	Nathaniel Peabody
Hampstead,	Voted not to send
Raymond, & Poplin,	John Dudley
New Castle, Deerfield, Northwood,	Voted not to send
Salem,	None sent
Candia,	Voted not to send
Epsom & Chichester,	John McClary
Pelham,	Jacob Butler, jr.
Windham,	None sent
Pembroke,	Joshua Kimball
Concord,	Timothy Walker
Canterbury & Loudon,	Jeremiah Clough
Bow, & Dunbarton,	Voted not to send
Durham,	John Sullivan (chos. 1782)
Lee & Madbury,	James Davis
Dover,	Otis Baker Joshua Wingate
Somersworth, Rochester, Barrington,	
Wakefield,	None sent
Gilmanton,	Joseph Badger, Sen.
Meredith & Sanbornton,	Ebenezer Smith
Wolfboro',	Voted not to send
Sandwich,	James Brewer
Conway,	
Goffstown,	None sent
Merrimack,	Simeon Cummings
Nottingham, West, &c.	Timothy Smith
Dunstable,	Jonathan Lovewell
Hollis,	None sent
Amherst,	None sent
Hopkinton,	Joshua Bailey

Salisbury, & Boscawen,	Ebenezer Webster
Weare,	Voted not to send
Wilton, &c.	Jonathan Martin
New Boston,	None sent.
Andover, Warner, &c.	None sent
Mason, & Roby,	Benjaman Mann
New Ipswich,	Timothy Farrar
Temple, & Peterborough,	John Cragin, jr.
Dublin, & Marlborough &c.	Reuben Morse Amos Emery
Lyndeborough,	
Hillsborough,	None sent
Litchfield, &c.	James Underwood
Rindge, & Jaffrey,	William Smiley
Keene,	Daniel Newcomb
Packersfield,	None sent.
Swanzey, & Fitzwilliam,	Edward Goddard
Hinsdale, &c.	None sent
Westmoreland,	
Walpole,	Thomas Sparhawk John Bellows
Richmond,	Oliver Capron
Surry, & Alstead,	None sent
Newport, &c. &c.	Benjamin Giles
Unity,	William Markham
Acworth, &c,	Daniel Grant
Winchester, Charlestown, Claremont,	None sent
Cornish, Plainfield,	None sent
Plymouth, &c. &c.	Francis Worcester Samuel Emerson
N. Holderness, &c. &c.	Moses Baker
Lancaster, &c. &c. &c.	David Page, by Tradition from Conway
Haverhill,	None sent

AN ADDRESS OF THE CONVENTION

FOR FRAMING A NEW CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNMENT, FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO THE INHABITANTS OF SAID STATE.

[SENT OUT, 1781.]

FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS,—

The General Assembly of this State having thought proper to issue precepts to the several towns within the same, for choosing delegates to form a Convention for the purpose of framing a civil Constitution for the people of this State; and the Convention having met in consequence of such choice, after maturely deliberating on the important subject, agree to report the following plan, which with the humblest deference is submitted to your impartial consideration.

The task of forming a Constitution, adapted not only to our present situation, but to the probable situation and circumstances of remote posterity, is an arduous one indeed! How far we have succeeded in it you are the sole judges. It is your interest as well as duty, to examine it with the most critical attention, and it is your unquestionable right to propose such alterations as you may judge necessary, to approve and establish it as it now stands, or wholly to reject it.

A perfect system of Government is not to be expected in the present imperfect state of humanity. But could a faultless one be framed, it would not be universally approved unless its Judges were all equally perfect. Much less then, may we presume to hope that the plan here offered to view will meet with universal approbation. Unanimity of sentiment is seldom to be found in any case; there are many reasons for despairing of it in the present. Besides the common sources for variety of opinions on points in general, there are new and particular ones in the case before us. There is nothing which our *open*, *avowed enemies* more dread than to see the several States each formed into a permanent and well-constructed body-politic; as nothing, under GOD, can more contribute to the stability of their councils or the success of their exertions. Nor have we any reason to doubt but that our *secret*, internal *enemies* are equally averse thereto. Every artifice will be devised, every effort tried, to frustrate an event equally dreaded by both. Let us guard against their machinations.

Nor is it our enemies only we have to dread. We have much to fear from our friends; from those who wish well to the common cause, and are equally opposed to the common enemy.

The love of Power is so alluring, we had almost said infatuating, that few have ever been able to resist its bewitching influence. Wherever power is lodged there is a constant propensity to enlarge its boundaries. Much more then, will those with whom it is entrusted, agonize to retain all that is clearly delegated to them.

When the people of this state first thought proper to assume government for themselves, it was a time of difficulty and peril. That form which was the simplest, and first presented itself to their view, in the perturbation of spirits that then prevailed, they adopted without that thorough discussion and calm deliberation which so important an object required. It was not intended to be lasting. It was expressly declared by themselves to be temporary.

In this imperfect form, the legislative and executive powers of government were vested in one body, to wit, in a General Court, consisting of two branches, a House of Representatives and a Council. Nor was any provision made therein for the exercise of the executive power in the recess of the General assembly. So great a defect was soon discovered and felt; and the Court thus established by the Constitution, without any new authority derived from the people, or without even consulting them, patch'd this flaw by delegating to a number of persons, whom they termed the "Committee of Safety," the executive power to be by them exercised in the recess of the General Assembly: which mode has been since continued, and the Committee have made an important part of the government.

A further defect among innumerable others, is the want of an Exclusion-Bill: In consequence of which, many of the individuals who compose the aforementioned body, assist in enacting laws, in explaining and applying them, and in carrying them into execution.

Can it seem strange then, that such persons, and indeed all who are vested with the aforementioned powers, should be backward in receiving and approving a Constitution that so remarkably retrenches them? that sets out in direct opposition to the present one, with this position, that the three essential powers of government ought ever to be kept totally independent of each other? It is not strange, it is perfectly natural; and the fact is fully verified by the length of time which the present form of government has been permitted to continue. But we trust you will with a manly and becoming firmness, oppose every interested adviser, reject every selfish motive, and with a noble independency of spirit, "even of yourselves judge what is right."

Having premised these things, we will proceed to consider

as critically as the limits of our time will admit, the frame of government herewith exhibited to your view; its principles, and some of the motives that induced us to prefer it to any other system which occurred to us.

Availing ourselves of the various theories and forms of government we could meet with, whether new or old, examining their principles, and comparing them, as far as we were able, with experience, the surest touchstone, and most infallible comment, we collected sufficient, and we hoped the best, materials for the political building now presented to your view.

The three powers of government, before hinted at, to wit, The Legislative, or power of making laws,—The Judicial, or power of expounding and applying them to each particular case—And the Executive, to carry them into effect, and give the political machine life and motion: These three important powers we have thought proper to keep as separate and distinct as possible, for the following reasons.

If they should be all united, the government, would then be a complete system of tyranny. The same party would be legislator, accuser, judge, and executioner.

If the Legislative and Judicial powers should be united, the maker of the law would be the interpreter thereof, and might make it speak what language best pleased him, to the total abolition of justice.

If the Executive and Legislative powers should be vested in one body, still greater evils would follow. This body would enact only such laws as it wished to carry into execution, and would, besides, entirely absorb and destroy the judicial power, one of the greatest securities of the life, liberty, and property of the subject; and in fine, would procure the same system of despotism first mentioned. And lastly, should the executive, and judicial powers be combined, the great barrier against oppression would be at once destroyed: The laws would be made to bend to the will of that power which sought to execute them with the most unbridled rapacity.

These several powers should also be independent; in order to which they are formed with a mutual check upon each other. We shall proceed to consider them distinctly.

The Legislative power we have vested in a Senate and House of Representatives (with the reserve hereafter mentioned) each of which branches is to have a negative on the other; and either may originate any Bill, except for the grant of monies which is always to originate in the house. Any alterations or amendments may be proposed by either branch, in all cases. We have given the supreme executive power the right of revising and objecting to all the acts passed by the legislature, for reasons hereafter to be mentioned. The manner of

electing the second branch, or House of Representatives, as it is new, requires a particular discussion.

Experience must have convinced every one who has been, in any degree, conversant with the transacting of business in public bodies, that a very large assembly is not the most convenient for the purpose. There is seldom so much order, and never so much dispatch, as is to be found in a smaller body. The reason is obvious. This has given birth to the mode of chusing committees out of the whole body; and experience hath demonstrated its utility. The Convention, therefore, were of opinion, that the confining this second branch to the number of fifty, which appeared to them sufficiently large for every purpose, would be attended with the following salutary consequences.

First, There would be, probably, a greater proportion of suitable men, than in a larger body. The manner of their choice, they being twice sifted, would likewise greatly promote this. The debates, would of course, be conducted with more wisdom, and unanimity. From their numbers, merely, there would be much less confusion, and infinitely more dispatch. This would of itself, produce an amazing saving in the expense, independent of the difference between paying fifty, and three times that number. For these and many other reasons, the reducing and confining this branch to a small number, was surely an achievement devoutly to be wished! But how was it to be effected? Should the mode hitherto practised of chusing members be continued, scarce three towns in the state, would be each entitled to elect one. Should several towns be joined together till a number sufficiently large was collected to choose a representative, this would be abridging the privileges of towns, confounding them with each other and destroying their independences. This has been practised in some few instances, but has been the source of much complaint, and many heavy evils.

The Convention therefore, after revolving the matter with the utmost attention, could hit upon no method that appeared to them in all respects, so unexceptionable as the one here offered. By allowing every town and parish having fifty rateable polls to elect one member to compose a certain body, out of which the people's representatives are to be chosen, almost every town and parish within the State that would wish to exert the privilege, is included, and even such as have less than fifty rateable polls are permitted to join another. Besides, in a few years, tis probable, there will be no towns which have not fifty families at least within the State. The larger towns being permitted to choose in the same proportion renders the representation as equal as the nature of things will admit.

These bodies thus chosen, one in each county, after dividing the districts as mentioned in the Constitution, are respectively to choose from among themselves the representatives of the people to sit in the General Court. This mode will be found, perhaps, as free, equal, and perfect, as any that can be devised. The objection, that in this way each town will not know, nor have the power of designating its own representative, will, perhaps, on examination, be found one of the strongest arguments in its favor. Those interested views, that party spirit, and zeal for rivalry, which too often takes place in towns on such occasions, will be hereby in a great measure destroyed; and the people will be under a necessity of acting upon higher and better principles.

The provision for publishing the journals of both Houses at the close of each session, supersedes another objection that might be stated against the want of information among the people, that the smallness of the Representative body might otherwise occasion. The only remaining objection of any weight, is the consequences that may arise from the assembling so large a number of people together at the County Conventions. To this it is replied, that the County Delegates thro' the State, will be divided into five separate and distinct bodies —that all will sit on the same day,—and probably not more than one day, unless upon extraordinary occasions—that they will be the chosen ones of the people, a most respectable body, with too much business on their hands to allow them time for dissipation, and too much of the people's welfare at their hearts to permit them to sow sedition. And even allowing some of the inconveniences hinted at really to follow, they must be less than if all should unite in one General Assembly, and sit, not one or two days only, but half the year, in the proportion of a hundred to one.

We have been thus particular upon this head of representation, partly on account of the novelty of the mode, and partly from a full conviction of the vast importance of the thing. And we leave it for your faithful discussion; observing as we do it, that it is what many great, wise, and learned men of our own, and other days, have wished to see put in practise, and have not seen it.

The choice and powers of the Senate, having less of novelty and being sufficiently explained in the Constitution we shall pass over with a bare mention, and proceed to the Executive Power.

This Power is the active principle in all governments: It is the soul, and without it the body-politic is but a dead corpse. Its department is to put in execution all the laws enacted by the legislative body. It ought therefore, to have the appoint-

ment of all the civil officers of the State. It is at the head of the militia, and therefore should have equally the appointment of all the military officers within the same. Its characteristic requisites are secrecy, vigour, and dispatch. The fewer persons, therefore, this supreme power is trusted with, the greater probability there is that these requisites will be found. The convention therefore, on the maturest deliberation, have thought it best to lodge this power in the hands of one, whom they have stiled the GOVERNOR. They have indeed, array'd him with honors, they have armed him with power, and set him on high. But still he is only the right hand of *your* power, and the mirror of *your* majesty. Every possible provision is made to guard against the abuse of this high betrustment and protect the rights of the people.

The manner of his choice is such, that he is the most perfect representative of the people. He can take no one step of importance without the advice of his privy-council; and he is elected annually. But, as if this was too little, no one person is capable of being elected oftener than three years in seven. Every necessary and useful qualification is required in him, in point of age, religion, residency, and fortune. In addition to all which, he is liable for every misconduct to be impeached, tried, and displaced, by the two legislative branches; and is amenable to the laws besides, equally with the meanest subject of the State. Thus controlled and checked himself the Convention thought it reasonable and necessary, that he, in turn, should have some check on the legislative-power. They therefore gave him the right of objecting to and suspending, tho' not the absolute control over the acts of that body; which they thought indispensably necessary to repel any encroachments on the executive power, and preserve its independency.

The Judicial department falls next under our consideration.

This comprehends the Judges of the several courts, and the Justices of peace throughout the State. These are all appointed by the Governor, with the advice of Council, but not removable by him in case of malconduct, but by the legislature, and in no case without the intervention of that body.

The Judges all hold their offices during good behavior; the only proper term, especially for the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature, as they ought, in a peculiar manner, to feel themselves independent and free, and as none would be at the pains to qualify themselves for such important places, if they were liable to be removed at pleasure. As another inducement for persons so to qualify themselves as an encouragement to vigilance, and an antidote to bribery and corruption; adequate, honorable, and permanent salaries to the Judges of the Supreme Court in a particular manner, we

have made essential in the Constitution, and do now most strongly recommend.

The alteration of Justices' commissions from life to five years, is to guard against age, incapacity, and too large a number; to secure the appointment of the best; and to prevent too frequent addresses and impeachments. You will judge of the propriety and expediency of this innovation, and either give it your sanction or not, as appears to you best.

The reasons for the EXCLUSION BILL are too obvious to be pointed out. Sad experience has evinced the necessity of such a provision. Besides the interference of several offices held by the same person, in point of *time*, which we have often *seen*; and the difficulty of one man's giving his attention to many matters sufficiently to understand them all, which we have too *often felt;* there is still a stronger reason, which is the difficulty of a man's preserving his integrity in discharging the duties of each unstained—at least by suspicion.

From the deepest impression of the vast importance of LITERATURE in a free government, we have interwoven it with, and made its protection and encouragement a part of the Constitution itself.

The BILL OF RIGHTS contains the essential principles of the Constitution. It is the foundation on which the whole political fabric is reared, and is consequently, a most important part thereof. We have endeavored therein to ascertain and define the most important and essential natural rights of man. We have distinguished betwixt the alienable and unalienable rights: for the former of which men may receive an equivalent: for the latter, or the RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE, they can receive none; The World itself being wholly inadequate to the purchase. "For what is a man profited, though he should gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

The various modes of worship among mankind, are founded in their various sentiments and beliefs concerning the GREAT OBJECT of all religious worship and adoration. Therefore to him alone and not to man, are they accountable for them.

Thus the Convention have endeavored to explain as particularly as they could without trespassing on your patience, the reasons and principles upon which they have labored to form this Constitution. They have done it in integrity and faithfulness. They conceived themselves as part of the community for which the Constitution is intended, and therefore equally interested with the other members in framing the best. Whatever latent defects there may be in it, time will discover them —and, at the end of seven years, provision is made that they may be amended. Confiding therefore, in your candor, and humbly imploring on your behalf, that assistance which the

fountain of Wisdom sees you need, we leave it in your hands, and wait with chearful acquiescence, your decision.

In the Name and pursuant to a Resolution of the Convention.

GEORGE ATKINSON, President.

Attest. JONA. M. SEWALL, Secretary.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF 1781.

A CONSTITUTION OR FORM OF GOVERNMENT, AGREED UPON BY THE DELEGATES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE IN CONVENTION,

Begun and held at Concord, on the second Tuesday of June, 1781, and continued by adjournment, to the second Tuesday of September following: To be submitted to the PEOPLE for their revision, in order to the completing of the same, in conformity to their amendments, at a session to be holden for that purpose, on the fourth Wednesday of January next.

A CONSTITUTION OR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

PART I.

A Declaration of the Rights of the People of New Hampshire.

ARTICLE I.

All men are born equally free and independent, therefore all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good.

II.

All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights among which are,—the enjoying and defending life and liberty—acquiring, possessing and protecting property,—and in a word of seeking and obtaining happiness.

III.

When Men enter into a state of society, they surrender up some of their natural rights to that society in order to secure the protection of others, and without such an equivalent the surrender is void.

IV.

Among the natural rights, some are in their very nature unalienable, because no equivalent can be given or received for them. Of this kind are the RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE.

V.

Every individual has a natural and unalienable right to worship GOD according to the dictates of his own conscience, and reason,—and no subject shall be hurt, molested, or restrained in his person, liberty or estate for worshipping God, in the manner and season most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience, or for his religious profession, sentiments or persuasion; provided he doth not disturb the public peace or disturb others in their religious worship.

VI.

As morality and piety, rightly grounded on evangelical principles, will give the best and greatest security to Government, and will lay in the hearts of men the strongest obligations to due subjection; and as the knowledge of these is most likely to be propagated through a society by the institution of the public worship of the Deity and of public instruction in morality and religion; therefore to promote these important purposes, the people of this State have a right to impower, and do hereby fully impower the Legislature to authorize from time to time, the several towns, parishes, bodies corporate or religious societies within this State to make adequate provision at their own expence, for the support and maintenance of public Protestant teachers of piety, religion and morality;

Provided notwithstanding, That the several towns, parishes, bodies-corporate or religious societies, shall at all times have the exclusive right of electing their own public teachers, and of contracting with them for their support and maintenance. And no person of any one particular religious sect or denomination, shall ever be compelled to pay towards the support of the teacher or teachers of another persuasion, sect or denomination.

And every denomination of christians demeaning themselves quietly and as good subjects of the State, shall be equally under the protection of the law; and no subordination of any one sect or denomination to another shall ever be established by law.

And nothing herein shall be understood to affect any former contracts made for the support of the ministry, but all such contracts shall remain and be in the same state as if this Constitution had not been made.

VII.

The people of this State have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign and independent State, and do, and forever hereafter shall, exercise, and enjoy every power, jurisdiction and right pertaining thereto, which is not, or may not hereafter be by them expressly delegated to the United States of America in Congress assembled.

VIII.

All power residing originally in, and being derived from the people, all the magistrates, and officers of government, are their substitutes and agents, and at all times accountable to them.

IX.

No office or place whatsoever in government shall be hereditary—the abilities and integrity requisite in all, not being transmissible to posterity or relations.

X.

Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family, or class of men, therefore whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought, to reform the old, or establish a new government; the doctrine of non resistance against arbitrary power, and oppression is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

XI.

All elections ought to be free, and every inhabitant of the State having the proper qualifications, has equal right to elect, and be elected into office.

XII.

Every member of the community has a right to be protected by it in the enjoyment of his life, liberty and property—he is therefore bound to contribute his share in the expence of such protection, and to yield his personal service when necessary, or an equivalent. But no part of a man's property shall be taken from him, or applied to public uses, without his own consent or that of the Representative body of the people. Nor are the inhabitants of this State controllable by any other laws than those to which they or their Representative body have given their consent.

XIII.

No person who is conscientiously scrupulous about the law-

fulness of bearing arms, shall be compelled thereto, provided he will pay an equivalent.

XIV.

Every subject of this state is entitled to a certain remedy, by having recourse to the laws, for all injuries he may receive in his person, property or character, to obtain right and justice freely, without being obliged to purchase it; completely, and without any denial; promptly, and without delay, conformably to the laws.

XV.

No subject shall be held to answer for any crime, or offence, until the same is fully and plainly, substantially and formally, described to him; or be compelled to accuse or furnish evidence against himself. And every subject shall have a right to produce all proofs that may be favorable to himself; to meet the witnesses against him face to face, and to be fully heard in his defence by himself, and Counsel. And no subject shall be arrested, imprisoned, despoiled, or deprived of his property, immunities, or privileges, put out of the protection of the law, exiled, or deprived of his life, liberty or estate, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

XVI.

No subject shall be liable to be tried, after an acquittal, for any crime or offence whatsoever. Nor shall the Legislature make any law that shall subject any person to a capital punishment, excepting for the government of the army and navy, and the militia in actual service, without trial by jury.

XVII.

In criminal prosecutions, the trial of facts in the vicinity where they happen, is so essential to the security of the life, liberty and estate of the citizen, that no crime or offence ought to be tried in any other county than where it is committed.

XVIII.

All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offence. No wise Legislature will affix the same punishment to the crimes of theft, forgery and the like, that they do to those of murder and treason; where the same undistinguishing severity is exerted against all offences, the people are led to forget the real distinction in the crimes themselves, and to commit the most flagrant with as little compunction as they do those of the lightest dye; for the same reason a multitude of sanguinary laws are both impolitic and unjust. The true design of all punishment being to reform, not to exterminate, mankind.

XIX.

Every subject hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his houses, his papers, and all his possessions. All warrants, therefore, are contrary to this right, if the cause or foundation of them, be not previously suported by oath, or affirmation; and if the order in the warrant to a civil officer, to make search in suspected places, or to arrest one or more suspected persons, or to seize their property, be not accompanied with a special designation of the persons or objects of search, arrest, or seizure; And no warrant ought to be issued but in cases, and with the formalities prescribed by the laws.

XX.

In all controversies concerning property, and in all suits between two or more persons, except in cases in which it has been heretofore otherwise used and practised, the parties have a right to trial by jury; and this method of procedure shall be held sacred, unless in causes arising on the high seas, and such as relate to Mariners wages, the Legistature shall find it necessary hereafter to alter it.

XXI.

In order to reap the fullest advantage of the inestimable privilege of the trial by JURY, great care ought to be taken that none but qualified persons should be capable of serving, and such ought to be fully compensated for their travel, time and attendance.

XXII.

The liberty of the Press is essential to the security of freedom in a State; it ought therefore to be inviolably preserved.

XXIII.

Retrospective laws are highly injurious, oppressive and unjust. No such laws therefore should be made, either for the decision of civil causes, or the punishment of offences.

XXIV.

A well regulated militia is the proper, natural, and sure defence of a State.

XXV.

Standing armies are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be raised or kept up without the consent of the Legislature.

XXVI.

In all cases, and at all times, the military ought to be under strict subordination to, and governed by the civil power.

XXVII.

No soldier in time of peace shall be quarter'd in any house without the consent of the owner, and in time of war such quarters ought not to be made but by the civil magistrate in a manner ordained by the Legislature.

XXVIII.

No subsidy, charge, tax, impost or duty shall be established, fixed. laid, or levied, under any pretext whatsoever, without the consent of the people or their Representatives in the Legislature or authority derived from that body.

XXIX.

The power of suspending the laws, or the execution of them, ought never to be exercised but by the Legislature, or by authority derived therefrom, to be exercised in such particular cases only as the Legislature shall expressly provide for.

XXX.

The freedom of deliberation, speech, and debate, in either House of the Legislature, is so essential to the rights of the people, that it cannot be the foundation of any action, complaint, or prosecution, in any other court or place whatsoever.

XXXI.

The Legislature ought frequently to assemble for the redress of grievances, for correcting, strengthening, and confirming the laws, and for making new ones, as the common good may require.

XXXII.

The people have a right in an orderly and peaceable manner, to assemble in order to consult upon the common good, give instructions to their Representatives; and to request of the Legislative-body, by way of petition or remonstrance, redress of the wrongs done them, and of the grievances they suffer.

XXXIII.

No magistrate or court of law shall demand excessive bail or sureties, impose excessive fines, or inflict cruel or unusual punishments.

XXXIV.

No person can in any case be subjected to law-martial, or to any pains, or penalties by virtue of that law, except those persons employed in the army or navy, and except the militia in actual service, but by the authority of the Legislature.

XXXV.

It is essential to the preservation of the rights of every individual, his life, liberty property and character, that there be an impartial interpretation of the laws, and administration of Justice. It is the right of every citizen to be tried by Judges as impartial as the lot of humanity will admit. It is therefore not only the best policy but for the security of the rights of the people that the Judges of the Supreme (or Superior) Judicial Court should hold their offices so long as they behave well; and that they should have honorable Salaries, ascertained and established by standing laws.

XXXVI.

Economy being a most essential virtue in all States, more especially in a young one, no person ought to receive any stipend, or salary, but as an equivalent for actual services, and the Legislature ought to be exceeding cautious of granting pensions, especially for life.

XXXVII.

In the government of this state, the three essential powers thereof, to wit, the Legislative, Executive and Judicial, ought to be kept as separate from and independent of each other, as the nature of a free government will admit, or as is consistent with that chain of connection that binds the whole fabric of the Constitution in one indissoluble bond of union and amity.

XXXVIII.

A frequent recurrence to the fundamental principles of the Constitution, and a constant adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, frugality, and all the social virtues, are indispensably necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty and good government; the people ought therefore, to have a particular regard to all those principles in the choice of their officers and representatives: And they have a right to require of their law givers and magistrates an exact and constant observance of them in the formation and execution of the laws necessary for the good administration of government.

PART II.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

The people inhabiting the territory formerly called the Province of New Hampshire, do hereby solemnly and mutually agree with each other, to form themselves into a free, sovereign and independent Body-politic or State, by the Name of the STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

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THE GENERAL COURT.

The supreme legislative power within this State shall be vested in a Senate and House of Representatives, each of which shall have a negative on the other.

The Senate and House shall assemble every year on the first Wednesday of June, and at such other times as they may judge necessary, and shall dissolve, and be dissolved, seven days next preceding the said first Wednesday of June, and shall be stiled the GENERAL COURT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

No bill or resolve of the Senate or House of Representatives, shall become a law, and have force, as such, until it shall have been laid before the Governor for his revisal: And if he, upon such revision, approve thereof, he shall signify his approbation by signing the same. But if he has any objection to the passing of such bill or resolve, he shall return the same, together with his objections thereto, in writing, to the Senate or House of Representatives, in whichsoever the same shall have originated; who shall enter the objections sent down by the Governor, at large, on their records, and proceed to reconsider the said bill or resolve: But if upon such reconsideration, three quarters of said Senate or House of Representatives, shall notwithstanding the said objections, agree to pass the same, it shall, together with the objections, be sent to the other branch of the Legislature, where it shall be also reconsidered, and if approved by three quarters of the members present, it shall have the force of a law: But in all such cases, the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays; and the names of the persons voting for, or against, the said bill or resolve, shall be entered upon the public records of the State.

And in order to prevent unnecessary delays, if any bill or resolve shall not be returned by the Governor within eight days after it shall have been presented, the same shall have the force of law.

The General Court shall forever have full power and authority to erect and constitute Judicatories and courts of record, or other courts, to be holden in the name of the State, for the hearing, trying, and determining all manner of crimes, offences, pleas, processes, plaints, actions, causes, matters and things, whatsoever, arising, or happening within this State, or between or concerning persons inhabiting, or residing or brought within the same, whether the same be criminal or civil, or whether the crimes be capital, or not capital, and whether the said pleas be real, personal or mixt; and for the awarding and issuing Execution thereon: To which courts and judicatories are hereby given and granted full power and au-

thority, from time to time, to administer oaths or affirmations for the better discovery of truth in any matter in controversy, or depending before them.

And farther, full power and authority are hereby given and granted to the said General Court, from time to time, to make, ordain, and establish, all manner of wholesome and reasonable orders, laws, statutes, ordinances, directions, and instructions, either with penalties or without; so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution, as they may judge for the benefit and welfare of this State, and for the governing and ordering thereof, and of the subjects of the same, for the necessary support and defence of the government thereof; and to name and settle annually, or provide by fixed laws, for the naming and settling all civil officers within this State; such officers excepted, the election and appointment of whom, are hereafter in this form of government, otherwise provided for; and to set forth the several duties, powers and limits, of the several civil and military officers of this State, and the forms of such oaths or affirmations, as shall be respectively administered unto them for the execution of their several offices and places, so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution; and also to impose fines, mulcts, imprisonments, and other punishments; and to impose and levy proportional and reasonable assessments, rates and taxes, upon all the inhabitants of, and residents within the said State; and upon all estates within the same; to be issued and disposed of by warrant under the hand of the Governor of this State for the time being, with the advice and consent of the Council, for the public service, in the necessary defence and support of the government of this State, and the protection and preservation of the subjects thereof, according to such acts as are or shall be in force within the same.

And while the public charge of government, or any part thereof, shall be assessed on polls and estates in the manner that has hitherto been practiced, in order that such assessments may be made with equality, there shall be a valuation of the estates within the State taken anew once in every five years at least, and as much oftener as the General Court shall order.

SENATE.

There shall be annually elected by the freeholders and other inhabitants of this State, qualified as in this Constitution is provided, twelve persons to be Senators for the year ensuing their election; to be chosen in and by the inhabitants of the districts, into which this State may from time to time be divided by the General Court, for that purpose: And the Gen-

eral Court, in assigning the number to be elected by the respective districts, shall govern themselves by the proportion of public taxes paid by the said districts; and timely make known to the inhabitants of the State, the limits of each district, and the number of Senators to be elected therein; provided the number of such districts shall never be more than ten, nor less than five. And the several Counties in this State, shall, until the General Court shall order otherwise, be districts for the election of Senators, and shall elect the following number, viz.

Rockingham, Five.
Strafford, Two.
Cheshire, Two.
Hillsborough, Two.
Grafton, One.

The Senate shall be the first branch of the Legislature; and the Senators shall be chosen in the following manner, viz. every male inhabitant of each town and parish with town-privileges, in the several counties in this State, of twenty-one years of age and upwards, having a freehold estate in his own right, of the value of One hundred pounds; situated in this State, or other estate to that amount, shall have a right at the annual or other meetings of the inhabitants of said towns and parishes, to be duly warned and holden annually forever in the month of March, to vote in the town or parish wherein he dwells, for the senators in the county or district whereof he is a member.

And every person, qualified as the constitution provides, shall be considered an inhabitant for the purpose of electing and being elected into any office or place within this state in that town, parish or plantation where he dwelleth and hath his home.

The Selectmen of the several towns and parishes aforesaid, shall, during the choice of senators, preside at such meetings impartially, and shall receive the votes of all the inhabitants of such towns and parishes present and qualified to vote for senators, and shall sort and count the same in the meeting, and in presence of the town clerk, who shall make a fair record in presence of the Selectmen, and in open meeting, of the name of every person voted for, and the number of votes against his name, and a fair copy of this record, shall be attested by the Selectmen and town clerk, and shall be sealed up and directed to the Secretary of the State, with a superscription expressing the purport thereof, and delivered by the said clerk to the sheriff of the county in which such town or parish lies, thirty days at least, before the first Wednesday of

June; and the sheriff of each county or his deputy, shall deliver all such certificates by him received, into the Secretary's office, seventeen days, at least, before the first Wednesday of June.

And the inhabitants of plantations & places unincorporated, qualified as this constitution provides, who are, or shall be, required to assess taxes upon themselves towards the support of government, or shall be taxed therefor; shall have the same privilege of voting for senators in the plantations and places wherein they reside, as the inhabitants of the respective towns and parishes aforesaid have: And the meetings of such plantations and places for that purpose shall be holden annually in the month of March, at such places respectively therein, as the assessors thereof shall direct; which assessors shall have like authority for notifying the electors, collecting and returning the votes, as the Selectmen and town clerks have in the several towns by this constitution.

And that there may be a due meeting of senators on the first Wednesday of June annually, the Governor and three of the Council for the time being, shall as soon as may be, examine the returned copies of such records; and fourteen days before the said first Wednesday of June, he shall issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen senators by a majority of votes, to attend and take their seats on that day: Provided, nevertheless, that for the first year the said returned copies shall be examined by the president and five of the Council of the former constitution of government; and the said president shall in like manner, notify the persons elected, to attend and take their seats accordingly.

The senate shall be final judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members, as pointed out in the constitution, and shall on the said first Wednesday of June annually, determine and declare, who are elected by each district to be senators by a majority of votes: And in case there shall not appear to be the full number returned elected by a majority of votes for any district, the deficiency shall be supplied in the following manner, viz. the members of the house of representatives and such senators as shall be declared elected, shall take the names of such persons as shall be found to have the highest number of votes in each district, and not elected, amounting to twice the number of senators wanting, if there be so many voted for; and out of them shall elect by joint ballot the number of senators wanted for such district: And in this manner all such vacancies shall be filled up in every district of the state, and in like manner all vacancies in the senate, arising by death, removal out of the state, or otherwise,

shall be supplied as soon as may be, after such vacancies happen.

Provided nevertheless, That no person shall be capable of being elected a senator, who is not of the Protestant Religion, and seized of a freehold estate in his own right of the value of four hundred pounds, clear of debt, lying within this state, and who is not of the age of thirty years, and who shall not have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years immediately preceding his election, and at the time thereof he shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen.

The senate shall have power to adjourn themselves, provided such adjournment do not exceed two days at a time.

The senate shall choose its own president, appoint its own officers, and determine its own rules of proceedings. And not less than eight members of the senate shall make a quorum for doing business.

The senate shall be a court with full power and authority to hear and determine all impeachments made by the house of representatives, against any officer or officers of the State, for misconduct or mal-administration in their offices. But previous to the trial of any such impeachment, the members of the senate shall respectively be sworn, truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question according to evidence. Their judgment, however, shall not extend further than removal from office, disqualification to hold or enjoy any place of honor, trust or profit under this state; but the party so convicted, shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to the laws of the land.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

There shall be in the legislature of this state, a representation of the people, consisting of fifty members, apportioned upon each county, as follows, viz. for the

County of Rockingham, twenty;
Strafford, eight;
Hillsborough, ten;
Cheshire, eight;
Grafton, four;

and elected in County-Conventions.

In order that the representation of the citizens of this state, may be as equal as a large political society will admit; every corporate town, and parish, having town privileges, containing fifty rateable polls, may elect one delegate for such County Convention, wherein such town or parish lies; every such town, or parish, containing one hundred rateable polls, may elect two such delegates, and so proceeding in that manner, making fifty the mean increasing number for every additional

delegate. And if after the fifties are deducted, there should remain twenty five, or more such rateable polls, that remaining number shall entitle such town or parish to elect another delegate therefor. And every corporate town, or parish with town privileges, which now, or hereafter, shall not contain fifty rateable polls, shall have a right to join, or associate with some town or towns adjoining, for the election of delegates; and in such cases, the votes thus united, shall have the right to elect the same number of delegates, as they would have done were they inhabitants of one corporate town; which delegates may be elected out of either of the associated towns, or parishes, indifferently. And the legislature, from time to time, shall determine what towns or parishes shall thus associate, the manner of their association, and the method of calling and conducting the meetings of such associated towns and parishes, for the election of delegates to the county conventions.

The delegates for the county conventions shall be elected by a majority of written votes, and no person shall be a delegate, unless he be of the Protestant Religion, and for two years next preceding his election an inhabitant of the town, parish, or association, for which he may be chosen; and shall have an estate of the value of two hundred pounds clear of debt, one half of which, shall be a freehold whereof he is seized in his own right, situate in the town, parish, or association, for which he may be elected.

The meeting of the several towns, parishes and associations, for the choice of such delegates, shall after being duly warned, be holden in the respective towns, parishes & associations in the month of March annually.

The Selectmen of the several towns, parishes and associations, shall preside at such meetings, receive the votes of the inhabitants thereof present, and qualified to vote for such delegates, in presence of the clerk thereof, who shall make a fair record in said meeting, in presence of the Selectmen, of the names of the delegates chosen by a majority of votes, and of the number of votes for each against his name; and a fair copy of this record shall be attested by the Selectmen and clerk of the meeting, and timely delivered to each delegate.

The conventions for the choice of representatives for each county shall be holden at the following time and places, viz. on the third Wednesday of April annually, At Chester, for and in the county of Rockingham; At Rochester, for and in the county of Strafford; At Amherst, for and in the county of Hillsborough; At Walpole, for and in the county of Cheshire; At Haverhill, for and in the county of Grafton.

The places for holding such conventions, may be altered by

the legislature, for others more convenient within the respective counties. A quorum of each convention for doing business, shall never be less than two thirds of its members.

Each convention shall be the judge of the returns, qualifications, and elections of its own members as pointed out in the constitution, shall choose their own president and clerk, and settle rules for their own proceedings.

Each county shall contain as many districts, as the same shall have representatives, and each district in each county, shall be so divided by the respective annual conventions, as each shall contain equal number of rateable polls, or as near as may be.

The several counties in the State shall be so divided into districts by the conventions of each county, at their first annual meeting; and forever after at every fifth annual convention, Which being done, each convention, shall elect by a majority of written votes out of the members who are chosen to compose such convention, a representative for each district; and living within the district for which he may be chosen. And the president of such convention, with the clerk, shall sort and count the votes, and declare who are chosen representatives by a majority of votes for each district within such county, and the clerk shall make a fair record of the names of each representative, and of the number of votes for each against his name, in open convention; and deliver a copy of the record attested by the president and clerk, to each representative, as soon as may be.

Each convention shall have power to adjourn themselves but not longer than two days at a time. All intermediate vacancies in the house of representatives, may be filled up from time to time by the convention of the county wherein the same may happen, agreeably to the writ from the house of representatives for that purpose; which occasional convention shall be holden at the same places appointed for the annual ones, and at such times as the writ shall direct; and such representatives shall be elected and returned, in like manner as those at the annual conventions.

The house of representatives shall be chosen annually, and shall be the second branch of the legislature.

The wages and travel to the General Court, and returning home, once in every session, shall be paid out of the public treasury, to every member, who in the judgment of the house, shall attend seasonably, and not depart without leave.

The house of representatives shall be the grand inquest of the State, and all impeachments made by them, shall be heard and tried by the Senate.

All money bills shall originate in the house of representatives, but the senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

The house of representatives shall have power to adjourn themselves, but not longer than two days at a time.

Two thirds of the members of the house of representatives elected, provided the said two thirds do not amount to a less number than thirty, shall make a quorum for doing business.

No member of the house of representatives or senate shall be arrested, or held to bail on mean process, during his going to, returning from, or attendance upon the court.

The house of representatives shall choose their own speaker, appoint their own officers, settle the rules of proceedings in their own house; and issue writs to fill up any intermediate vacancies therein. They shall have authority to punish by imprisonment, every person who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house in its presence, by any disorderly and contemptuous behaviour, or by threatening, or ill treating any of its members; or by obstructing its deliberations; every person guilty of a breach of its privileges in making arrests for debt, or by assaulting any of its members during his attendance at any session, in assaulting or disturbing any one of its officers in the execution of any order or procedure of the house, in assaulting any witness or other person, ordered to attend and during his attendance, of the house, or in rescuing any person arrested by order of the house, knowing them to be such. The Senate and Governor, and Council, shall have the same powers in like cases, provided that no imprisonment by either for any offence, exceed ten days.

The Journals of the proceedings of both houses of the General Court, shall be printed and published immediately after every adjournment, or prorogation; and upon motion made by any one member, the yeas and nays upon any question, shall be taken and entered in the journals.

The legislature shall once every five years from the commencement of this constitution, apportion the representatives anew to and for each county, according to the number of rateable polls each may contain.

EXECUTIVE POWER.

GOVERNOR.

There shall be a supreme executive Magistrate, who shall be stiled, the GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire; and whose Title shall be HIS EXCELLENCY.

The Governor shall be chosen annually; and no person

shall be eligible to this office, unless at the time of his election, he shall have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of thirty years, and unless he shall, at the same time, have an estate of the value of one thousand pounds, one half of which shall consist of a freehold, clear of debt, within the state; and unless he shall be of the Protestant religion.

Those persons qualified to vote for delegates to the county conventions, within the several towns, parishes, and plantations, of this state, shall at a meeting to be called for that purpose, some day in the month of March annually, give in their votes for a Governor to the select men, who shall preside at such meeting, and the clerk in the presence and with the assistance of the select men, shall in open meeting sort and count the votes, and form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name; and shall make a fair record of the same in the town books; and a public declaration thereof in the said meeting; and shall in the presence of said inhabitants seal up a copy of said list, attested by him and the selectmen, and transmit the same to the sheriff of the county, thirty days at least before the first Wednesday of June, or shall cause returns of the same to be made to the office of the secretary of the state, seventeen days at least, before said day: who shall lay the same before the senate and house of representatives on the first Wednesday of June, to be by them examined: And in case of an election by a majority of votes thro' the state, the choice shall be by them declared and published: But if no person shall have a majority of votes, the house of representatives shall by ballot elect two out of four persons, who had the highest number of votes, if so many shall have been voted for; but if otherwise, out of the number voted for; and make return to the senate of the two persons so elected, on which the senate shall proceed by ballot to elect one of them, who shall be declared GOVERNOR.

The Governor, with the advice of Council, shall have full power and authority in the recess of the general court, to prorogue the same from time to time, not exceeding ninety days in any one recess of said court; and during the session of said court, to adjourn or prorogue it to any time the two houses may desire; and to call it together sooner, than the time to which it may be adjourned, or prorogued, if the welfare of the state should require the same.

In cases of disagreement between the two houses, with regard to the time of adjournment, or prorogation, the Governor, with advice of Council, shall have the right to adjourn or prorogue the General Court, not exceeding ninety days, at any one time, as he may determine the public good may re-

quire. And he shall dissolve the same seven days before the said first Wednesday of June. And in case of any infectious distemper prevailing in the place where the said court at any time is to convene, or any other cause whereby dangers may arise to the healths, or lives, of the members from their attendance, the Governor may direct the session to be holden at some other the most convenient place within the State.

The Governor of this State for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the army and navy, and all the military forces of the State, by sea and land; and shall have full power by himself, or by any chief commander, or other officer, or officers, from time to time, to train, instruct, exercise, and govern the militia and navy; and for the special defence and safety of this state, to assemble in martial array, and put in warlike posture, the inhabitants thereof, and to lead and conduct them, and with them to encounter, expulse, repel, resist and pursue by force of arms, as well by sea as by land, within and without the limits of this state; and also to kill, slay, destroy, if necessary, and conquer by all fitting ways, enterprize and means, all and every such person and persons, as shall at any time, hereafter, in a hostile manner, attempt or enterprize the destruction, invasion, detriment, or annoyance of this State; and to use and exercise over the army and navy, and over the militia in actual service, the law martial in time of war, invasion, and also in rebellion, declared by the legislature to exist, as occasion shall necessarily require. And also from time to time, to erect forts, and fortify any place or places within the said state, and the same to furnish with all necessary ammunitions, provisions and warlike stores for defence and offence, and to commit, from time to time, the custody and government of the same, to such person or persons as to him may seem meet: And in time of emergency, the said forts and fortifications to demolish at his discretion: and to take and surprize by all ways and means whatsoever, all and every such person or persons, with their ships, arms, ammunition, and other goods, as shall in a hostile manner invade, or attempt the invading, conquering, or annoying this State: and in fine, that the Governor be, and hereby is intrusted with all other powers incident to the office of Captain-General and Commander in Chief, and Admiral, to be exercised agreeably to the rules and regulations of the Constitution, and the laws of the land. Provided, that the Governor shall not at any time hereafter, by virtue of any power by this constitution granted, or hereafter to be granted to him by the legislature, transport any of the inhabitants of this state, or oblige them to march out of the limits of the same, without their free and voluntary consent, or the consent of the general court; nor grant commissions for

exercising the law martial upon any of the inhabitants of this state, without the advice and consent of the council of the same.

The power of pardoning of offences, except such as persons may be convicted of before the senate by the impeachment of the house, shall be in the Governor, by and with the advice of the Council. But no charter of pardon granted by the Governor, with the advice of Council, before conviction, shall avail the party pleading the same notwithstanding any general or particular expressions contained therein, descriptive of the offence or offences intended to be pardoned.

All judicial officers, the Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, all Sheriffs, Coroners, Registers of Probate, and other civil officers, except such as are to be otherwise elected or appointed by this constitution, or the laws of the state, and all officers of the militia and navy shall be nominated and appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council; and every such nomination shall be made by the Governor, at least seven days prior to such appointment.

No officer, duly commissioned to command in the militia, shall be removed from his office, but by the address of both houses to the Governor, or by fair trial in court martial, pursuant to the laws of the state for the time being.

The commanding officers of regiments shall appoint their adjutants and quarter-masters; the brigadiers their brigade majors; the major-generals their aids; the captains and subalterns their non-commissioned officers.

The Governor, with the advice of Council, shall appoint all officers of the Continental army, whom by the confederation of the United States it is provided that this state shall appoint, as also all officers of forts and garrisons.

The division of the militia into Brigades, regiments, and companies, made in pursuance of the militia laws now in force, shall be considered as the proper division of the militia of this state, until the same shall be altered by some future law.

No monies shall be issued out of the treasury of this state, and disposed of, (except such sums as may be appropriated for the redemption of bills of credit or treasurers notes, or for the payment of interest arising thereon) but by warrant under the hand of the Governor, for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the council, for the necessary support and defence of this state, and for the necessary protection and preservation of the inhabitants thereof, agreeably to the acts and resolves of the general court.

All public boards, the commissary-general, all superintending officers of public magazines and stores, belonging to this

state, and all commanding officers of forts and garrisons within the same, shall once in every three months officially, and without requisition, and at other times, when required by the governor, deliver to him an account of all goods, stores, provisions, ammunition, cannon with their appendages and small arms, with their accoutrements, and of all other public property under their care respectively; distinguishing the quantity, and kind of each, as particularly as may be; together with the condition of such forts and garrisons: And the commanding officer shall exhibit to the governor, when required by him, true and exact plans of such forts, and of the land and sea or harbor or harbors adjacent.

And to prevent an undue influence in this state, which the first magistrate thereof may acquire, by the long possession of the important powers and trusts of that office, as also to stimulate others to qualify themselves for the service of the public, in the highest stations, no man shall be eligible as governor of this state, more than three years in any seven.

And as the public good requires, that the Governor should not be under the undue influence of any members of the two houses, by a dependence on them for support, that he should in all cases act with freedom for the benefit of the public; that he should not have his attention necessarily diverted from that object to his private concerns; and that he should maintain the dignity of the State in the character of its Chief Magistrate; it is necessary that he should have an honorable stated salary of a fixed and permanent value, amply sufficient for those purposes, and established by standing laws; and it shall be among the first acts of the general court after the commencement of this constitution, to establish such salary by law accordingly.

Permanent and honorable salaries shall be established by law for the Justices of the Superior Court.

Whenever the chair of the Governor shall be vacant, by reason of his death, absence from the state, or otherwise, the President of the Senate, for the time being, shall during such vacancy, have and exercise all the powers and authorities which by this constitution the Governor is vested with when personally present; and whenever the President shall fill the chair, he shall have no voice in the Senate.

COUNCIL.

There shall be a Council for advising the Governor, in the executive part of government, to consist of five persons, whom the Governor for the time being, shall have full power and authority to convene from time to time, at his discretion, and the Governor, with the Counsellors, or three of them at least, shall and may, from time to time, hold and keep a council, for

ordering and directing the affairs of the State, according to the laws of the land.

Five Counsellors shall be annually chosen from among the people at large, on the first Wednesday of June annually by joint ballot of the Senators and representatives in one room assembled. The qualifications for counsellors, shall be the same as those required for senators.

The resolutions and advice of the Council shall be recorded in a register, and signed by the members present, and the record may be called for at any time, by either house of the legislature, and any member of the Council may enter his opinion contrary to the resolution of the majority.

And whereas the elections appointed to be made by this constitution, on the first Wednesday of June annually, by the two houses of the legislature, may not be completed on that day, the said elections may be adjourned from day to day until the same shall be completed. And the order of the elections shall be as follows: the vacancies in the senate, if any, shall be first filled up; the Governor shall then be elected, provided there should be no choice of him by the people: And afterwards the two houses shall proceed to the election of the COUNCIL.

SECRETARY, TREASURER, COMMISSARY-GENERAL, &C.

The Secretary, Treasurer, and Commissary-General, shall be chosen by joint ballot of the senators and representatives in one room: and no man shall be eligible as Treasurer or commissary-general of this state, more than five years successively.

The records of the state shall be kept in the office of the secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be answerable, and he shall attend the governor and council, the senate and representatives, in person, or by deputy, as they may require.

COUNTY-TREASURER, &C.

The County-Treasurers. and Registers of Deeds shall be elected by the inhabitants of the several towns, in the several counties in the state, according to the method now practised, and the present laws of the state: And before they enter upon the business of their offices, shall be respectively sworn faithfully to discharge the duties thereof, and shall severally give bond, with sufficient sureties, in a reasonable sum for the use of the county, for the punctual performance of their respective trusts.

JUDICIARY POWER.

The tenure, that all commission officers shall have by law in their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commis-

sions. All judicial officers, duly appointed, commissioned and sworn, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, excepting those concerning whom there is a different provision made in this constitution: Provided nevertheless, the Governor, with consent of council, may remove them upon the address of both houses of the legislature.

Each branch of the legislature, as well as the governor and council, shall have authority to require the opinions of the justices of the superior court upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions.

In order that the people may not suffer from the long continuance in place of any justice of the peace, who shall fail in discharging the important duties of his office with ability and fidelity, all commissions of Justices of the peace shall expire and become void, in the term of five years from their respective dates; and upon the expiration of any commission, the same may if necessary, be renewed, or another person appointed, as shall most conduce to the well-being of the State.

The judges of probate of wills, and for granting letters of administration, shall hold their courts, at such place, or places, on such fixed days, as the convenience of the people may require. And the legislature shall from time to time, hereafter appoint such times and places, until which appointments the said courts shall be holden at the times and places which the respective judges shall direct.

All causes of marriage, divorces and alimony, and all appeals from the respective judges of probate, shall be heard and tried by the superior court, until the legislature shall, by law, make other provisions.

CLERKS OF COURTS.

The Clerks of the Superior Court of Judicature, Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, and General Sessions of the Peace, Shall be appointed by the respective courts during pleasure. And to prevent any fraud or unfairness in the entries and records of said courts, no such clerk shall be of counsel in any cause in the court of which he is clerk, nor shall he fill any writ in any civil action whatsoever.

DELEGATES TO CONGRESS.

The Delegates of this State to the Congress of the United States, shall sometime between the first Wednesday of June and the first Wednesday of September annually, be elected by the senate and house of representatives in their seperate branches, to serve in congress for one year; to commence on the first Monday in November then next ensuing. They shall

have commissions under the hand of the governor, and the great seal of the state; but may be recalled at any time within the year, and others chosen and commissioned, in the same manner, in their stead. And they shall have the same qualifications in all respects, as by this constitution are required for the governor.

No person shall be capable of being a delegate to Congress, for more than three years in any term of six years; nor shall any person being a delegate, be capable of holding any office under the United States, for which he, or any other for his benefit, receives any salary, or emolument of any kind.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF LITERATURE, &C.

Knowledge and Learning, generally diffused through a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government, and spreading the opportunities and advantages of education through the various parts of the country, being highly conducive to promote this end; it shall be the duty of the legislators and magistrates, in all future periods of this government, to cherish the interest of literature and the sciences, and all seminaries and public schools, to encourage private and public institutions, rewards and immunities for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trades, manufactures, and natural history of the country; to countenance and inculcate the principles of humanity and general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and economy, honesty and punctuality in their dealings; sincerity, sobriety, and all social affections, and generous sentiments, among the people.

OATHS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS; EXCLUSION FROM OFFICES; COMMISSIONS; WRITS; CONFIRMATION OF LAWS; HABEAS CORPUS; THE ENACTING STILE; CONTINUANCE OF OFFICERS; PROVISION FOR A FUTURE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION, &C.

Any person chosen Governor, Counsellor, Senator or Representative, accepting the trust, shall before he proceeds to execute the duties of his office, make and subscribe the following declaration, viz.

I, A. B. do truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify and declare, that the State of New Hampshire is, and of right ought to be, a free, sovereign, and independent State; and do swear that I will bear faith and true allegiance to the same, and that I will defend it against all treacherous conspiracies and hostile attempts whatever; and that I do renounce any subjection and obedience to the sovereign, or government of Great Britain, and every foreign power whatsoever, and that no foreign prince, person, pre-

late, state or potentate hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, superiority, pre-eminence, authority dispensing or other power, in any matter civil, ecclesiastical, or political within this State, except the power and authority which is, or may be vested by their Constituents in the Congress of the United States: And I do further testify and declare, that no man or body of men, hath or can have, a right to absolve me from the obligation of this oath, declaration or affirmation; and that I do make this acknowledgement, profession, testimony, declaration, denial and renunciation, honestly and truly, according to the common acceptation of the foregoing words, without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation whatsoever.

So help me GOD.

I A. B. do solemnly and sincerely swear and affirm, that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as . according to the best of my abilities, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this Constitution, and the laws of the State of New Hampshire. "*So help me* GOD."

Provided always, When any Person chosen or appointed as aforesaid, shall be of the denomination called Quakers, or shall be scrupulous of swearing, and shall decline taking the said oath, such shall take and subscribe them, omitting the word "Swear" and likewise the words "So help me God," subjoining instead thereof, This I do under the pains and penalties of perjury. And the oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the Governor, before the President of the Senate in the presence of the two Houses of Assembly; and by the Senate and Representatives first elected under this Constitution, before the President and three of the Council of the former Constitution, and forever afterwards, before the Governor and Council for the time being: and by the residue of the officers aforesaid, before such persons, and in such manner as from time to time shall be prescribed by the Legislature.

All commissions shall be in the name of the State of New Hampshire, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary, or his deputy, and shall have the great seal of the State affixed thereto.

All writs issuing out of the clerk's office in any of the courts of law, shall be in the name of the State of New Hampshire; shall be under the seal of the court whence they issue and bear test of the chief, first or senior Justice of the court; but when such Justice shall be interested, then the writ shall bear test of some other Justice of the court, to which the same shall be returnable, and be signed by the clerk of such Court.

All indictments, presentments and information shall conclude against the peace and dignity of the State.

The estates of such persons as may destroy their own lives, shall not for that offence be forfeited, but descend or ascend in the same manner, as if such person had died in a natural way. Nor shall any article, which shall accidentally occasion the death of any person, be henceforth deemed a deodand, or in any wise forfeited on account of such misfortune.

All the laws which have heretofore been adopted, read and approved, in the Province, Colony or State of New Hampshire, and usually practised on in the courts of law, shall still remain and be in full force, until altered and repealed by the Legislature; such parts there off *only* excepted, as are repugnant to the rights and liberties contained in this Constitution.

The priviledge and benefit of the Habeas Corpus, shall be enjoyed in this State, in the most free, easy, cheap, expeditious, and ample manner, and shall not be suspended by the Legislature, except upon the most urgent and pressing occasions, and for a time not exceeding three months.

The enacting stile in making and passing Acts, Statutes and laws, shall be—*Be it enacted* by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened.

No Governor, or Judge of the Superior Court, shall hold any office or place, under the authority of this State, except such as by this Constitution they are admitted to hold, saving that the Judges of the said Court may hold the offices of Justice of the Peace throughout the State; nor shall they hold any place or office, or receive any pension or salary, from any other State, Government or Power whatever.

No person shall be capable of exercising at the same time, more than one of the following offices within this State, viz, Judge of Probate, Sheriff, Register of Deeds; and never more than two offices of profit which may be held by appointment of the Governor, or Governor and Council, or Senate and House of Representatives, or Superior or Inferior Courts; military offices and offices of Justices of the Peace excepted.

No person holding the office of Judge of the Superior Court, Secretary, Treasurer of the State, Judge of Probate, Commissary General, Military Officers receiving pay from the Continent or this State; excepting officers of the militia occasionally called forth on an emergency, Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, President, Professor or Instructor of any College, Sheriff or officer of the Customs, including naval officers, shall at the same time have a seat in the Senate or House of Representatives or Council; but their being chosen or appointed to and accepting the same shall operate as a resig-

nation of their seat in the Senate, or House of Representatives or Council, and the place so vacated shall be filled up.

No person shall ever be admitted to hold a Seat in the Legislature, or any office of trust or importance under this Government, who in the due course of law, has been convicted of bribery, or corruption in obtaining an election or appointment.

In all cases where sums of money are mentioned in this Constitution, the value thereof shall be computed in silver at six shillings and eight pence per ounce. And it shall be in the power of the Legislature to increase such qualifications as to property of persons to be elected to office, as the circumstances of the State may require.

To the end that there may be no failure of justice or danger arise to this State from a change of the form of Government, all civil and military officers, holding commissions under the Government and People of New Hampshire, and other officers of the said Government and People, at the time this Constitution shall take effect, shall hold, exercise and enjoy all the powers and authorities to them granted and committed, until other persons shall be appointed in their stead. All courts of law in the business of their respective departments, and the Executive and Legislative Bodies and Persons, shall continue in full force, enjoyment and exercise of all their trusts and employments, until the General Court and the supreme and other Executive officers under this Constitution, are designated and invested with their respective trusts, powers and authority.

This form of Government shall be enrolled on parchment, and deposited in the Secretary's office, and be a part of the laws of the land, and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this State, in all future editions thereof.

To preserve an effectual adherence to the principles of the Constitution, and to correct any violation thereof; as well as to make such alterations therein, as from experience may be found necessary, the General Court shall after the expiration of seven years from the time this Constitution shall take effect, issue their precepts to the selectmen of the several towns, and to the assessors of unincorporated places within this State, directing them to convene the qualified voters therein, for the purpose of collecting their sentiments on the necessity or expediency of revising the Constitution in order for amendments: And if it shall appear by the returns made, that two thirds of the qualified voters through the State who shall assemble and vote in consequence of said precepts, are in favor of such revision and amendments, the General Court shall issue precepts,

or direct them to be issued from the Secretary's office, to the several towns and unincorporated places to elect delegates to meet in Convention for the purpose aforesaid: The said delegates to be chosen in the same manner and proportion as the delegates to the annual County Conventions, are by this Constitution.

In Convention, September 14, 1781.

Resolved that this Convention be adjourned to the fourth Wednesday of January next, to meet at Concord; and that seven hundred copies of the Plan of Government, which is agreed upon, to be printed, including such as shall be ordered to each member of the General Court, and of the Convention, be sent to the selectmen of each town, and assessors of each plantation, under the direction of the Committee appointed for that purpose: And that the selectmen and assessors be requested as soon as may be to lay the same before the inhabitants of their respective towns and plantations. And if the major part of the inhabitants of said towns and plantations disapprove of any particular part of the same, that they be desired to state their objections distinctly and the reasons therefor. And the selectmen and assessors are desired to transmit the same to the Convention on the fourth Wednesday of January aforesaid, or to the Secretary of the Convention before then, in order for the revision and consideration of the convention at the adjournment; with the number of voters in said towns and plantations meetings, on each side of the question: That the Convention may be able to collect the general sense of the people of this State on the several parts of the proposed Constitution: And if there should not appear to be two thirds of the people in favor thereof, that the Convention may alter it in such manner as may be most agreeable to the sentiments of two thirds of the voters throughout this State.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

On the fourth Wednesday of January, 1782, the Convention met according to adjournment; and on examination of the returns of votes, found the Constitution was rejected. The Convention then adjourned to the third Wednesday in August following, at which they agreed on another Plan of Government, which was sent out to the people with another Address.

SECOND ADDRESS OF THE CONVENTION

FOR FRAMING A NEW CONSTITUTION OR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE, TO THE INHABITANTS OF SAID STATE.

[Sent out in 1782.]

NOTE.—This ADDRESS, though very similar in many points to the first, is evidently modified by the "*reasons*" which the people assigned for rejecting the first Constitution. ED.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS,

THE *General-Assembly* of this State having thought proper to issue precepts to the several Towns within the same, for choosing delegates to form a Convention for the purpose of framing a civil Constitution for the people of this State; and the Convention having repeatedly met in consequence of such choice, maturely deliberated on the important subject, collected as nearly as possible the sentiments of the Inhabitants of this State from their returns laid before the Convention in June last, agree to report the following plan, which with the humblest deference is submitted to your impartial consideration.

THE forming a Constitution, adapted not only to our present situation, but to the probable circumstances of remote posterity, is truly an arduous task! How far we have succeeded in the attempt, you are the sole judges. It is your interest as well as duty, to examine it with the most critical attention; and it is your unquestionable right to propose such alterations as you may judge necessary, to approve and establish the plan as it now stands, or wholly to reject it.

A PERFECT system of Government is not to be expected in the present imperfect state of humanity. But could a faultless one be framed, it would not be universally approved, unless its judges were all equally perfect. Much less then, may we presume to hope that the plan here offered to view will meet with universal approbation. Unanimity of sentiment is seldom to be found in any case; there are many reasons for despairing of it in the present. Besides the common sources for variety of opinions on points in general, there are new and particular ones in the case before us. There is nothing which our *open, avowed enemies* more dread than to see the several States, each formed into a permanent and well-constructed body-politick, as nothing under GOD, can more contribute to the stability of their councils, or the success of their exertions. Nor have we any reason to doubt but that our *secret, internal enemies* are equally averse thereto. Every artifice will be devised, every effort tried, to frustrate an event equally dreaded by both. Let us guard against their machinations.

WHEN the people of this State first thought proper to assume government for themselves, it was a time of difficulty and peril. That form which was the simplest, and first presented itself to their view, in the perturbation of spirits that then prevailed, they adopted without that thorough discussion and calm deliberation which so important an object required. It was not intended to be lasting. It was expressly declared by themselves to be temporary.

IN this imperfect form, the Legislative and Executive powers of government were vested in one body, to wit, in a General Court, consisting of two branches, a House of Representatives and a Council. Nor was any provision made therein for the exercise of the executive power in the recess of the General-Assembly. So great a defect was soon discovered and felt; and the Court thus established by the Constitution, were compelled to attempt a remedy by delegating the executive-power to a Committee of Safety in the recess of the General-Assembly; which mode has since been continued, and this Committee has made an important part of the government.

A FURTHER defect, among many others, is the want of an EXCLUSION BILL: In consequence of which, some individuals assist in enacting laws, in explaining and applying them, and even in carrying them into execution.

WHILE we forbear to mention a variety of other imperfections, permit us to suggest, that the great expence incurred by frequent meetings of the Committee of Safety, and the delay necessarily occasioned by the business of the executive department being intrusted to so great a

number of persons, have been too sensibly felt to require arguments on our part, to convince you that an alteration in this respect, will promote the interest of every individual in the community.

HAVING premised these things, we will proceed to consider as critically as the limits of our time will admit, the frame of government herewith exhibited to your view; its principles, and some of the motives that induced us to prefer it to any other system which occurred to us.

AVAILING ourselves of the various theories and forms of government we could meet with, whether new or old, examining their principles, and comparing them, as far as we were able, with experience, the surest touchstone, and most infallible comment, we collected sufficient, and we hoped the best materials, for the political building now presented to your view.

THE three powers of government before hinted at, to wit—The legislative, or power of making laws—The judicial, or power of expounding and applying them to each particular case—And the executive, to carry them into effect, and give the political machine life and motion: These three important powers we have thought proper to keep as seperate and distinct as possible, for the following reasons.

IF they should be all united, the government would then be a complete system of tyranny. The same party would be legislator, accuser, judge and executioner.

IF the legislative and judicial powers should be united, the maker of the law would be the interpreter thereof, and might make it speak what language best pleased him, to the total abolition of justice.

IF the executive and legislative powers should be vested in one body, still greater evils would follow. This body would enact only such laws as it wished to carry into execution, and would besides, entirely absorb and destroy the judicial power, one of the greatest securities of the life, liberty, and property of the subject; and in fine, would produce the same system of despotism first mentioned.

AND lastly, should the executive and judicial powers be combined, the great barrier against oppression would be at once destroyed: The laws would be made to bend to the will of that power which sought to execute them with the most unbridled rapacity.

THESE several powers should also be independent; in order to which they are formed with a check upon each other. We shall proceed to consider them distinctly.

THE legislative-power we have vested in a Senate and House of Representatives (with the reserve hereafter mentioned) each of which branches is to have a negative on the other; and either may originate any Bill, except for the grant of monies, which is always to originate in the House. Any alterations or amendments may be proposed by either branch, in all cases. We have given the supreme executive power the right of revising and objecting to all the acts passed by the legislature, for reasons hereafter to be mentioned.

THE mode of representation is not only the best we could devise, but is conformed to the sentiments of a very great majority of individuals in the State, as appears by the returns which they have been pleased to lay before us; and doth not materially differ from that which has long been practised upon in this government: consequently not likely to produce those dangerous evils, which too often flow from the adopting systems not recommended by the voice of experience. Every town, parish, or place, however inconsiderable, may be represented by being classed with some other; and where this cannot be done without inconvenience, the General-Assembly is impowered to grant relief. And should any defects be discovered in the present mode of representation,

a revision at the end of seven years, will afford sufficient opportunity to apply a remedy.

THE choice and powers of the Senate being sufficiently explained in the Constitution, we shall pass over with a bare mention, and proceed to the executive-power.

THIS power is the active principle in all governments. Its department is to put in execution all the laws enacted by the Legislative-body. Its characteristic requisites are secrecy, vigour, and dispatch. The fewer persons therefore, this supreme power is trusted with, the greater probability there is that these requisites will be found. The Convention therefore, on the maturest deliberation, have thought it best to lodge this power in the hands of *one*, whom they have stiled the GOVERNOR. They have indeed cloathed him with the necessary powers, while every possible provision is made to guard against the abuse of this high betrustment, and protect the rights of the people.—The manner of his choice is such, that he is the most perfect representative of the people. He can take no one step of importance without the advice of his privy Council; and he is elected annually. Every necessary and useful qualification is required in him, in point of age, religion. residency, and fortune. In addition to all which, he is liable for every misconduct to be impeached, tried and displaced, by the two legislative branches; and is amenable to the laws besides, equally with the meanest subject of the State. Thus controlled and checked himself, the Convention thought it reasonable and necessary, that he, in turn, should have some check on the legislative power. They therfore gave him the right of objecting to, and suspending, tho' not the absolute control over the acts of that body; which they thought indispensably necessary to repel any encroachments on the executive-power, and preserve its independency.

As the strength and safety of this State will greatly depend on the keeping up a well regulated militia, we have been particularly attentive to this important object; and after the most mature deliberation have adopted a mode for the appointment of militia officers, which we flatter ourselves will receive your approbation. Experience has sufficiently convinced the Americans in general, and some of our neighbouring States in particular, of the ill consequence, resulting from the method adopted in their Constitutions of the Captains and Subalterns being chosen by the soldiers, and the field officers by the Captains and Subalterns. This not only renders every superior officer dependent on his inferior, but opens a dangerous avenue to division, discord and animosity in every corps; where the election of an officer is not unanimous, which cannot be always rationally expected, indolent and unqualified persons, who know how to gain an ascendency over the minds of the soldiers, by art, and address, will probably be preferred to those who by a strict attention to the duties of their office, would render the militia respectable in the minds of our friends, and formidable in the eyes of our enemies.

AT the commencement of the present war with Great-Britain, the want of experience necessarily induced many, if not all the States, to adopt this mode of appointing their officers to serve in the Continental army, which method would have continued to this day, if experience had not sufficiently demonstrated, that subordination, harmony, and regular discipline, could not exist, where such appointments were tolerated.

To avoid these, and many other evils, too tedious to enumerate, we have vested the Governor & Council, with the power of appointing the General and field-officers; and have given the field-officers the power of nominating their Captains and Subalterns.

PERSONS qualified to fill the important posts of General and field-officers, will undoubtedly be sufficiently known in the State; and a

knowledge of their talents may be acquired by the Governor and Council, without that difficulty, which would attend an examination, respecting the abilities of persons qualified to serve as Captains and Subalterns.

THE Governor and Council will have every inducement to be particular in the appointment of proper persons, as General & field officers, & the field officers must feel their honor too nearly concerned, in the nomination of their under officers, to recommend any, without first availing themselves of every necessary information and advice. We have been thus particular upon this head on account of its great importance to the State, our own observations, and the opinion of every person versed in the art of war, concur in persuading us, that our safety, and yours, as well as that of unborn posterity, will depend upon your rejecting the ill-judged method of electing officers by the voice of tumult, dissention, and party spirit, and adopting the natural, and rational mode of appointment which we recommend.

THE judicial department falls next under our consideration.

THIS comprehends the Judges of the several courts, and the Justices of the peace throughout the State. These are all appointed by the Governor, with the advice of Council, but not removable by him in case of mal-conduct, but by the Legislature—and in no case without the intervention of that body.

THE Judges all hold their offices during good behaviour; the only proper tenure, especially for the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature, as they ought, in a peculiar manner, to feel themselves independent and free, and as none would be at the pains to qualify themselves for such important places, if they were liable to be removed at pleasure. As another inducement for persons so to qualify themselves, as an encouragement to vigilance, and an antidote to bribery and corruption; adequate, honorable, and permanent salaries to the Judges of the Supreme Court in a particular manner, we have made assential in the Constitution, and do now most strongly recommend.

THE alteration of Justices commissions from life, to five years, is to guard against age, incapacity, and too large a number; to secure the appointment of the best; and to prevent too frequent addresses and impeachments. You will judge of the propriety and expediency of this innovation, and either give it your sanction or not as appears to you best.

THE reasons for the EXCLUSION-BILL, are too obvious to need pointing out. Sad experience has evinced the necessity of such provision. Besides the interference of several offices held by the same person, in point of *time*, which we have often *seen;* and the difficulty of one man's giving his attention to many matters sufficiently to understand them all, which we have too often *felt;* there is a still stronger reason, which is the difficulty of a man's preserving his integrity in discharging the duties of each unstained—at least by suspicion.

FROM the deepest impression of the vast importance of LITERATURE in a free government, we have interwoven it with, and made its protection and encouragement a part of the Constitution itself.

THE BILL OF RIGHTS contains the essential principles of the Constitution. It is the foundation on which the whole political fabric is reared, and is consequently, a most important part thereof.

WE have endeavor'd therein to ascertain and define the most important and essential natural rights of men. We have distinguished betwixt the alienable and unalienable rights: For the former of which, men may receive an equivalent; for the latter, or the RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE, they can receive none: The world itself being wholly inade-

quate to the purchase. "*For what is a man profited, though he should* "*gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?*"

THE various modes of worship among mankind, are founded in their various sentiments and beliefs concerning the GREAT OBJECT of all religious worship and adoration,—therefore to HIM alone, and not to man, are they accountable for them.

THUS the Convention have endeavored to explain as particularly as they could without trespassing on your patience, the reasons and principles upon which they have laboured to form this Constitution. They have done it in integrity and faithfulness. They conceived themselves as part of the community for which the Constitution is intended, and therefore equally interested with the other members in framing the best. Whatever latent defects there may be in it, time will discover them—and, at the end of seven years, provision is made that they may be amended—Confiding therefore in your candour, and humbly imploring on your behalf, that assistance which the fountain of wisdom sees you need, we leave it in your hands, and wait with cheerful acquiescence, your decision.

In the name, and pursuant to a Resolution of the Convention.

GEORGE ATKINSON, President.

Attest, JOHN SULLIVAN, *Secretary P. T.*

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

The BILL OF RIGHTS, included in this second Constitution, is word for word exactly like that sent out with the first (and hence need not be repeated)—except in the following articles, which readers will please notice;—the difference being marked by parallel lines, thus ‖.

ARTICLE XVI. No subject shall be liable to be tried after an acquittal, for ‖the same crime or offence.‖ Nor shall the Legislature make any law that shall subject any person to a capital punishment,—excepting for the government of the army and navy, and the militia in actual service,—without trial by Jury.

ARTICLE XVII. In criminal prosecutions, the trial of facts in the vicinity where they happen, is so essential to the security of life, liberty and estate of the citizen, that no crime or offence ought to be tried in any other county than where it is committed; ‖except in cases of a general insurrection in any particular county, where it shall appear to the Judges of the Superior Court, that an impartial trial cannot be had in the county where the offence may be committed, and upon their report, the Assembly shall think proper to direct the trial in the nearest county where an impartial trial can be obtained.‖

ARTICLE XX. [The last line.] the Legislature shall ‖think‖ it necessary hereafter to alter it.

ARTICLE XXXVI. Economy being a most essential virtue in all States, ‖more especially in a young one, no person ought to receive any stipend or salary, but as an equivalent for actual services; and the Legislature ought to be exceeding cautious of granting pensions, especially for life.‖

A CONSTITUTION OR FORM OF GOVERNMENT

FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

PART II.

THE People inhabiting the Territory formerly called the Province of *New-Hampshire*, do hereby solemnly and mutually agree with each other, to form themselves into a free, sovereign, and independent Body-politic or State, by the Name of the STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

THE GENERAL COURT.

THE Supreme Legislative power within this State shall be vested in a Senate and House of Representatives, each of which shall have a negative on the other.

THE Senate and House shall assemble every year on the first Wednesday of *June*, and at such other times as they may judge necessary, and shall dissolve, and be dissolved, seven days next preceding the said first Wednesday in *June;* and shall be stiled THE GENERAL COURT OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

No bill or resolve of the Senate or House of Representatives shall become a law, and have force as such, until it shall have been laid before the Governor for his revisal: And if he, upon such revision, approve thereof, he shall signify his approbation by signing the same.—But if he has any objection to the passing of such bill or resolve, he shall return the same, together with his objections thereto, in writing, to the Senate or House of Representatives, in which soever the same shall have originated; who shall enter the objections sent down by the Governor, at large, on their records, and proceed to reconsider the said bill or resolve: But if upon such reconsideration, three quarters of the said Senate or House of Representatives, shall notwithstanding the said objections, agree to pass the same, it shall, together with the objections, be sent to the other branch of the Legislature, where it shall be also reconsidered, and if approved by three quarters of the members present, it shall have the force of law: But in all such cases, the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays; and the names of the persons voting for, or against, the said bill or resolve, shall be entered upon the public records of the State.

And in order to prevent unnecessary delays, if any bill or resolve having been presented to the Governor, shall not be returned by him within the next eight days of the sitting of the General-Assembly, at the same session; or if it shall not so long continue, then on the second day of their next session, the same shall have the force of a law.

THE General Court shall forever have full power and authority to erect and constitute judicatories and courts of record, or other courts, to be holden in the name of the State, for the hearing, trying, and determining all manner of crimes, offences, pleas, processes, plaints, actions, causes, matters, and things, whatsoever; arising, or happening within this State, or between or concerning persons inhabiting, or residing, or brought within the same, whether the same be criminal or civil, or whether the crimes be capital, or not capital, and whether the said pleas be real, personal, or mixt; and for the awarding and issuing execution thereon. To which courts and judicatories are hereby given and granted full power and authority, from time to time, to administer

oaths or affirmations, for the better discovery of truth in any matter in controversy, or depending before them.

And farther, full power and authority are hereby given and granted to the said General Court, from time to time, to make, ordain, and establish, all manner of wholesome and reasonable orders, laws, statutes, ordinances, directions and instructions, either with penalties or without; so as the same be not repugnant, or contrary to this Constitution, as they may judge for the benefit and welfare of this State, and for the governing and ordering thereof, and of the subjects of the same, for the necessary support and defence of the government thereof; and to name and settle annually, or provide by fixed laws, for the naming and settling all civil officers within this State; such officers excepted, the election and appointment of whom, are hereafter in this form of government otherwise provided for; and to set forth the several duties, powers, and limits, of the several civil and military officers of this State, and the forms of such oaths or affirmations, as shall be respectively administered unto them for the execution for their several offices and places, so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution; and also to impose fines, mulcts, imprisonments, and other punishments; and to impose and levy proportional and reasonable assessments, rates and taxes, upon all the inhabitants of, and residents within the said State; and upon all estates within the same; to be issued and disposed of by warrant under the hand of the Governor of this State for the time being, with the advice and consent of the Council, for the public service, in the necessary defence and support of the Government of this State, and the protection and preservation of the subjects thereof, according to such acts as are, or shall be in force within the same.

And while the public charges of government or any part thereof, shall be assessed on polls and estates in the manner that has heretofore been practised; in order that such assessments may be made with equality, there shall be a valuation of the estates within the State taken anew once in every five years at least, and as much oftener as the General Court shall order.

SENATE.

There shall be annually elected by the freeholders and other inhabitants of this State, qualified as in this Constitution is provided, twelve persons to be Senators for the year ensuing their election; to be chosen in and by the inhabitants of the districts, into which this State may from time to time be divided by the General Court for that purpose: And the General Court, in assigning the number to be elected by the respective districts, shall govern themselves by the proportion of public taxes paid by the said districts; and timely make known to the inhabitants of the State, the limits of each district, and the number of Senators to be elected therein; provided the number of such districts shall never be more than ten, nor less than five.

And the several Counties in this State, shall, until the General Court shall order otherwise, be districts for the election of Senators, and shall elect the following number, viz.

Rockingham, five.
Strafford, two.
Hillsborough, two.
Cheshire, two.
Grafton, one.

The Senate shall be the first branch of the Legislature: And the Senators shall be chosen in the following manner, viz. Every male inhabitant of each Town and Parish with town privileges in the several Counties in this State, of twenty one years of age and upwards, paying

for himself a poll tax, shall have a right at the annual or other meetings of the inhabitants of said Towns and Parishes, to be duly warned and holden annually forever in the month of *March;* to vote in the Town or Parish wherein he dwells, for the Senators in the County or district whereof he is a member.

AND every person qualified as the Constitution provides, shall be considered an inhabitant for the purpose of electing and being elected into any office or place within this State, in that Town, Parish and Plantation where he dwelleth and hath his home.

THE Selectmen of the several Towns and Parishes aforesaid, shall, during the choice of Senators, preside at such meetings impartially, and shall receive the votes of all the inhabitants of such Towns and Parishes present and qualified to vote for Senators, and shall sort and count the same in meeting, and in presence of the Town Clerk, who shall make a fair record in presence of the Selectmen, and in open meeting, of the name of every person voted for, and the number of votes against his name; and a fair copy of this record shall be attested by the Selectmen and Town Clerk, and shall be sealed up and directed to the Secretary of the State, with a superscription expressing the purport thereof, and delivered by said Clerk to the Sheriff of the County in which such Town or Parish lies, thirty days at least, before the first Wednesday of *June;* and the Sheriff of each County or his deputy, shall deliver all such certificates by him received into the Secretary's office, seventeen days at least, before the first Wednesday of *June.*

And the inhabitants of plantations and places unincorporated, qualified as this Constitution provides, who are or shall be required to assess taxes upon themselves towards the support of government, or shall be taxed therefor, shall have the same privilege of voting for Senators in the plantations and places wherein they reside, as the inhabitants of the respective Towns and Parishes aforesaid have. And the meetings of such plantations and places for that purpose shall be holden annually in the month of *March,* at such places respectively therein, as the assessors thereof shall direct; which assessors shall have like authority for notifying the electors, collecting and returning the votes, as the Selectmen and Town Clerks have in their several Towns by this Constitution.

AND, that there may be a due meeting of Senators on the first Wednesday of *June,* annually, the Governor and three of the Council for the time being, shall as soon as may be, examine the returned copies of such records; and fourteen days before the said first Wednesday of *June,* he shall issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen Senators by a majority of votes, to attend and take their seats on that day: Provided, nevertheless, that for the first year the said returned copies shall be examined by the President and five of the Council of the former Constitution of government; and the said President shall in like manner notify the persons elected, to attend and take their seats accordingly.

THE Senate shall be final judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members, as pointed out in this Constitution, and shall on the said first Wednesday of *June* annually, determine and declare, who are elected by each district to be Senators by a majority of votes: And in case there shall not appear to be the full number returned elected by a majority of votes for any district, the deficiency shall be supplied in the following manner, viz. the members of the house of Representatives and such Senators as shall be declared elected, shall take the names of such persons as shall be found to have the highest number of votes in each district, and not elected, amounting to twice the number of Senators wanting, if there be so many voted for; and

out of these shall elect by joint ballot the number of Senators wanted for such district: And in this manner all such vacancies shall be filled up in every district of the State, and in like manner all vacancies in the Senate, arising by death, removal out of the State, or otherwise, shall be supplied as soon as may be, after such vacancies happen.

Provided nevertheless, That no person shall be capacle of being elected a Senator, who is not of the Protestant Religion, and seized of a freehold estate in his own right of the value of *two hundred Pounds*, lying within this State, who is not of the age of thirty years, and who shall not have been an inhabitant of this State for seven years immediately preceding his election, and at the time thereof he shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen.

THE Senate shall have power to adjourn themselves, provided such adjournment do not exceed two days at a time.

THE Senate shall choose its own President, appoint its own officers, and determine its own rules of proceedings. And not less than seven members of the Senate shall make a quorum for doing business. Provided, that when less than eight Senators shall be present, the assent of five at least shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

THE Senate shall be a court with full power and authority to hear and determine all impeachments made by the House of Representatives, against any officer or officers of the State, for misconduct or mal-administration in their offices. But previous to the trial of any such impeachment, the members of the Senate shall respectively be sworn, truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question according to evidence. Their judgment, however, shall not extend farther than removal from office, disqualification to hold or enjoy any place of honor, trust or profit under this State; but the party so convicted, shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to the laws of the land.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THERE shall be in the Legislature of this State a representation of the people annually elected and founded upon principles of equality: And in order that such representation may be as equal as circumstances will admit, every Town, Parish or place intitled to town privileges, having one hundred and fifty rateable male polls, of twenty one years of age, and upwards, may elect one representative; if four hundred and fifty rateable polls, may elect two representatives; and so proceeding in that proportion, making three hundred such rateable polls the mean increasing number, for every additional representative.

THAT such Towns, Parishes or places as have less than one hundred and fifty rateable polls shall be classed by the General Assembly for the purpose of chusing a representative, and seasonably notified thereof. And that in every class formed for the above mentioned purpose, the first annual meeting shall be held in the Town, Parish, or place wherein most of the rateable polls reside; and afterwards in that which has the next highest number, and so on annually by rotation, through the several Towns, Parishes or places, forming the district.

THAT whenever any Town, Parish, or place intitled to town privileges as aforesaid, shall not have one hundred and fifty rateable polls, and be so situated as to render the classing thereof with any other Town, Parish, or place very inconvenient, the General Assembly may upon application of a majority of the voters in such Town, Parish, or place, issue a writ for their electing and sending a representative to the General Court.

THE members of the house of representatives shall be chosen annu-

ally in the month of *March*, and shall be the second branch of the Legislature.

All persons qualified to vote in the election of Senators shall be intitled to vote within the Town, District, Parish, or place, where they dwell, in the choice of representatives. Every member of the house of representatives shall be chosen by ballot; and for two years at least next preceding his election, shall have been an inhabitant of this State, shall have an estate within the Town, Parish, or place which he may be chosen to represent, of the value of *one hundred pounds*, one half of which to be a freehold, whereof he is seized in his own right; shall be at the time of his election an inhabitant of the Town, Parish, or place he may be chosen to represent; shall be of the Protestant Religion, and shall cease to represent such Town, Parish, or place immediately on his ceasing to be qualified as aforesaid.

The travel of each representative to the General Assembly, and returning home, once in every session, and no more, shall be at the expence of the State, and the wages for his attendance, at the expence of the Town, Parish, or places he represents; such members attending seasonably and not departing without licence. All intermediate vacancies in the House of Representatives, may be filled up from time to time, in the same manner as annual elections are made.

The House of Representatives shall be the grand inquest of the State, and all impeachments made by them, shall be heard and tried by the Senate.

All money bills shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

The House of Representatives shall have power to adjourn themselves, but not longer than two days at a time.

That a majority of the members of the House of Representatives shall be a quorum for doing business: Provided, that when less than two thirds of the representatives elected shall be present, the assent of two thirds of the members shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

No member of the House of Representatives, or Senate shall be arrested or held to bail on mean process, during his going to, returning from, or attendance upon the Court.

The House of Representatives shall choose their own speaker, appoint their own officers, and settle the rules of proceedings in their own house. They shall have authority to punish by imprisonment, every person who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house in its presence, by any disorderly and contemptuous behavior, or by threatening, or ill treating any of its members; or by obstructing its deliberations; every person guilty of a breach of its privileges in making arrests for debt, or by assaulting any of its members during his attendance at any session, in assaulting or disturbing any one of its officers in the execution of any order or procedure of the house, in assaulting any witness, or other person, ordered to attend by and during his attendance of the house, or in rescuing any person arrested by order of the house, knowing them to be such. The Senate, Governor, and Council shall have the same powers in like cases; provided that no imprisonment by either for any offence, exceed ten days.

The Journals of the proceedings of both houses of the General Court, shall be printed and published, immediately after every adjournment, or prorogation; and upon motion made by any one member, the yeas and nays upon any question, shall be taken and entered in the journals.

EXECUTIVE POWER.

GOVERNOR.

THERE shall be a supreme executive Magistrate, who shall be stiled, THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE; and whose TITLE shall be HIS EXCELLENCY.

THE Governor shall be chosen annually; and no person shall be eligible to this office, unless at the time of his election, he shall have been an inhabitant of this State for seven years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of thirty years; and unless he shall, at the same time, have an estate of the value of *five hundred Pounds*, one half of which shall consist of a freehold in his own right, within the State; and unless he shall be of the Protestant Religion.

THOSE persons qualified to vote for Senators and Representatives, shall within the several Towns, Parishes, or Places, wherein they dwell, at a meeting to be called for that purpose, some day in the month of *March* annually, give in their votes for a Governor to the Selectmen, who shall preside at such meeting, and the Clerk in the presence and with the assistance of the Selectmen, shall in open meeting sort and count the votes, and form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name, and shall make a fair record of the same in the town books, and a public declaration thereof in the said meeting; and shall in the presence of said inhabitants, seal up a copy of said list attested by him and the Selectmen, and transmit the same to the Sheriff of the County, thirty days at least before the first Wednesday of *June*, or shall cause returns of the same to be made to the office of the Secretary of the State, seventeen days at least, before said day, who shall lay the same before the Senate and House of Representatives on the first Wednesday of *June*, to be by them examined: And in case of an election by a majority of votes through the State, the choice shall be by them declared, and published; but if no person shall have a majority of votes, the House of Representatives shall by ballot elect two out of the four persons who had the highest number of votes, if so many shall have been voted for; but if otherwise, out of the number voted for; and make return to the Senate of the two persons so elected, on which the Senate shall proceed by ballot to elect one of them, who shall be declared GOVERNOR.

THE Governor, with advice of Council, shall have full power and authority in the recess of the General-Court, to prorogue the same from time to time, not exceeding ninety days in any one recess of said Court; and during the session of said Court, to adjourn or prorogue it to any time the two houses may desire, and to call it together sooner than the time to which it may be adjourned, or prorogued, if the welfare of the State should require the same.

IN cases of disagreement between the two houses, with regard to the time of adjournment, or prorogation, the Governor, with advice of Council, shall have a right to adjourn or prorogue the General Court, not exceeding ninety days at any one time, as he may determine the public good may require. And he shall dissolve the same seven days before the said first Wednesday of *June*. And in case of any infectious distemper prevailing in the place where the said Court at any time is to convene, or any other cause whereby dangers may arise to the healths or lives, of the members from their attendance, the Governor may direct the session to be holden at some other the most convenient place within the State.

The Governor of this State for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the army and navy, and all the military forces of the State, by sea and land; and shall have full power by himself, or by any chief

commander, or other officer, or officers, from time to time, to train, instruct, exercise and govern the militia and navy; and for the special defence and safety of this State, to assemble in martial array, and put in warlike posture, the inhabitants thereof, and to lead and conduct them, and with them to encounter, expulse, repel, resist and pursue by force of arms, as well by sea as by land, within and without the limits of this State; and also to kill, slay, destroy, if necessary, and conquer by all fitting ways, enterprize and means, all and every such person and persons as shall, at any time hereafter, in a hostile manner, attempt or enterprize the destruction, invasion, detriment, or annoyance of this State; and to use and exercise over the army and navy, and over the militia in actual service, the law-martial in time of war, invasion, and also in rebellion, declared by the Legislature to exist, as occasion shall necessarily require: And surprize by all ways and means whatsoever, all and every such person or persons, with their ships, arms, ammunition, and other goods, as shall in a hostile manner invade, or attempt the invading, conquering, or annoying this State: And in fine, that the Governor be, and hereby is entrusted with all other powers incident to the office of captain-general and commander in chief, and admiral, to be exercised agreeably to the rules and regulations of the Constitution, and the laws of the land. Provided, that the Governor shall not at any time hereafter, by virtue of any power by this Constitution granted, or hereafter to be granted to him by the Legislature, transport any of the inhabitants of this State, or oblige them to march out of the limits of the same, without their free and voluntary consent, or the consent of the General Court, nor grant commissions for exercising the law-martial in any case, without the advice and consent of the Council.

The power of pardoning of offences, except such as persons may be convicted of before the Senate by the impeachment of the house, shall be in the Governor, by and with the advice of the Council: But no charter of pardon granted by the Governor, with advice of Council, before conviction, shall avail the party pleading the same, notwithstanding any general or particular expressions contained therein, descriptive of offence or offences intended to be pardoned.

All Judicial officers, the Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, all Sheriffs, Coroners, Registers of Probate, and all officers of the navy, and general and field officers of the militia, shall be nominated and appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council: and every such nomination shall be made by the Governor at least seven days prior to such appointment. The Captains and Subalterns in the respective regiments shall be nominated and recommended by the field officers to the Governor, who is to issue their commissions immediately on receipt of such recommendation.

No officer, duly commissioned to command in the militia shall be removed from his office, but by the address of both houses to the Governor, or by fair trial in court-martial, pursuant to the laws of the State for the time being.

The commanding officers of the regiments shall appoint their adjutants and quarter-masters; the brigadiers their brigade-majors; the major generals their aids; the captains and subalterns their non-commissioned officers.

The Governor, with advice of Council, shall appoint all officers of the Continental army, whom by the confederation of the UNITED STATES it is provided that this State shall appoint, as also all officers of forts and garrisons.

The division of the militia into brigades, regiments and companies, made in pursuance of the militia laws now in force, shall be considered as the proper division of the militia of this State, until the same shall be altered by some future law.

No monies shall be issued out of the treasury of this State, and disposed of, (except such sums as may be appropriated for the redemption of bills of credit or treasurers notes, or for the payment of interest arising thereon) but by warrant under the hand of the Governor for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, for the necessary support and defence of this State, and for the necessary protection and preservation of the inhabitants thereof, agreeably to the acts and resolves of the General Court.

All public boards, the commissary-general, all superintending officers of public magazines and stores, belonging to this State, and all commanding officers of forts and garrisons within the same, shall once in every three months officially, and without requisition, and at other times, when required by the Governor, deliver to him an account of all goods, stores, provisions, ammunition, cannon with their appendages, and small arms with their accoutrements, and of all other public property under their care respectively; distinguishing the quantity, and kind of each, as particularly as may be; together with the condition of such forts and garrisons: And the commanding officer shall exhibit to the Governor, when required by him, true and exact plans of such forts, and of the land, and sea or harbor or harbors adjacent.

And as the public good requires, that the Governor should not be under the undue influence of any members of the two houses, by a dependence on them for his support; that he should in all cases act with freedom for the benefit of the public; that he should not have his attention necessarily diverted from that object to his private concerns; and that he should maintain the dignity of the State in the character of its Chief Magistrate; it is necesssary that he should have an honorable salary amply sufficient for those purposes, granted him at the first meeting of the Assembly annually.

Permanent and honorable salaries shall be established by law for the Justices of the Superior Court.

Whenever the chair of the Governor shall be vacant, by reason of his death, absence from the State, or otherwise, the President of the Senate, for the time being, shall during such vacancy, have and exercise all the powers and authorities which by this Constitution the Governor is vested with when personally present; and whenever the President shall fill the chair, he shall have no voice in the Senate.

COUNCIL.

There shall be a Council for advising the Governor in the Executive part of Government, to consist of five persons, whom the Governor for the time being, shall have full power and authority to convene from time to time, at his discretion, and the Governor, with the Counsellors, or three of them at least, shall and may from time to time hold and keep a Council, for ordering and directing the affairs of the State, according to the laws of the land.

Five Counsellors shall be annually chosen from among the people at large, on the first Wednesday of *June* annually, by joint ballot of the Senators and Representatives in one room assembled. The qualifications for Counsellors, shall be the same as those required for Senators.

The resolutions and advice of the Council shall be recorded in a register, and signed by the members present, and this record may be called for at any time, by either house of the Legislature, and any member of the Council may enter his opinion contrary to the resolution of the majority.

And whereas the elections appointed to be made by this Constitution on the first Wednesday of *June* annually, by the two houses of the Legislature, may not be completed on that day, the said elections may

be adjourned from day to day until the same shall be completed. And the order of the elections shall be as follows; the vacancies in the Senate, if any, shall be first filled up; the Governor shall then be elected, provided there should be no choice of him by the people; And afterwards the two houses shall proceed to the election of the Council.

SECRETARY, TREASURER, COMMISSARY-GENERAL, &c.

THE Secretary, Treasurer, and Commissary-General, shall be chosen by joint ballot of the Senators and Representatives assembled in one room.

THE records of the State shall be kept in the office of the Secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be answerable, and he shall attend the Governor and Council, the Senate and Representatives, in person or by deputy, as they may require.

COUNTY-TREASURER, &c.

THE County-Treasurers, and Registers of deeds, shall be elected by the inhabitants of the several towns, in the several Counties in the State, according to the method now practised, and the present laws of the State: And before they enter upon the business of their offices, shall be respectively sworn faithfully to discharge the duties thereof, and shall severally give bond with sufficient sureties, in a reasonable sum for the use of the County, for the punctual performance of their respective trusts.

JUDICIARY POWER.

THE tenure, that all commission officers shall have by law in their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commissions. All judicial officers, duly appointed, commissioned and sworn, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, excepting those concerning whom there is a different provision made in this Constitution: *Provided nevertheless*, the Governor, with consent of Council, may remove them upon the address of both houses of the Legislature.

EACH branch of the Legislature, as well as the Governor and Council, shall have authority to require the opinions of the justices of the Superior Court upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions.

IN order that the people may not suffer from the long continuance in place of any justice of the peace, who shall fail in discharging the important duties of his office with ability and fidelity, all commissions of justices of the peace shall expire and become void, in the term of five years from their respective dates; and upon the expiration of any commission, the same may if necessary, be renewed, or another person appointed, as shall most conduce to the well-being of the State.

THE judges of probate of wills, and for granting letters of administration, shall hold their courts at such place or places, on such fixed days, as the convenience of the people may require. And the Legislature shall from time to time, hereafter appoint such times and places, until which appointments the said Courts shall be holden at the times and places which the respective judges shall direct.

ALL causes of marriage, divorce and alimony, and all appeals from the respective judges of probate, shall be heard and tried by the Superior Court, until the Legislature shall, by law make other provision.

CLERKS OF COURTS.

THE Clerks of the Superior Court of Judicature, Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, and General Sessions of the Peace, shall be appointed

by the respective courts during pleasure. And to prevent any fraud or unfairness in the entries and records of said Courts, no such Clerk shall be of counsel in any cause in the Court of which he is Clerk, nor shall he fill any writ in any civil action whatsoever.

DELEGATES TO CONGRESS.

THE Delegates of this State to the Congress of the United States, shall some time between the first Wednesday of *June*, and the first Wednesday of *September* annually, be elected by the Senate and House of Representatives in their separate branches; to serve in Congress for one year, to commence on the first Monday of *November* then next ensuing. They shall have commissions under the hand of the Governor, and the great seal of the State; but may be recalled at any time within the year, and others chosen and commissioned, in the same manner, in their stead: And they shall have the same qualifications, in all respects, as by this Constitution are required for the Governor.

No person shall be capable of being a delegate to Congress, for more than three years in any term of six years; nor shall any person being a delegate, be capable of holding any office under the United States, for which he, or any other for his benefit, receives any salary, or emolument of any kind.

ENCOURAGEMENT of LITERATURE, &c.

KNOWLEDGE, and Learning, generally diffused through a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government, and spreading the opportunities and advantages of education through the various parts of the country, being highly conducive to promote this end; it shall be the duty of the Legislators and magistrates, in all future periods of this government, to cherish the interest of literature and the sciences, and all seminaries and public schools, to encourage private and public institutions, rewards and immunities for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trades, manufactures and natural history of the country; to countenance and inculcate the principles of humanity and general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and œconomy, honesty and punctuality, sincerity, sobriety and all social affections, and generous sentiments, among the people.

OATH and SUBSCRIPTIONS; EXCLUSION from OFFICES; COMMISSIONS; WRITS; CONFIRMATION of LAWS; HABEAS CORPUS; the ENACTING STILE; CONTINUANCE OF OFFICERS; PROVISION for a future REVISION of the CONSTITUTION, &c.

ANY person chosen Governor, Counsellor, Senator or Representatives, military and civil officers (Town officers excepted,) accepting the trust, shall before he or they proceed to execute the duties of his or their office, make and subscribe the following declaration, viz.

I, A. B. do truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify and declare, that the State of New Hampshire is, and of right ought to be, a free, sovereign, and independent State; and do swear that I will bear faith and true allegiance to the same, and that I will endeavour to defend it against all treacherous conspiracies and hostile attempts whatever: And I do further testify and declare, that no man or body of men, hath or can have, a right to absolve me from the obligation of this oath, declaration or affirmation; and that I do make this acknowledgement, profession,

testimony, and declaration, honestly and truly, according to the common acceptation of the foregoing words, without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation whatever.

So help me GOD.

I, A. B. do solemnly and sincerely swear and affirm, that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as according to the best of my abilities, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this Constitution, and the laws of the State of New Hampshire. So help me GOD.

Provided always, When any person chosen or appointed as aforesaid, shall be of the denomination called Quakers, or shall be scrupulous of swearing, and shall decline taking the said oaths, such shall take and subscribe them, omitting the word "*swear*" and likewise the words "*So help me God*," subjoining instead thereof, *This I do under the pains and penalties of perjury.*

AND the oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the Governor, before the President of the Senate in the presence of the two Houses of Assembly; and by the Senate and Representatives first elected under this Constitution, before the President and three of the Council of the former Constitution, and forever afterwards, before the Governor and Council for the time being; and by the residue of the officers aforesaid, before such persons, and in such manner as from time to time shall be prescribed by the Legislature.

ALL commissions shall be in the name of the State of New-Hampshire, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary, or his deputy, and shall have the great seal of the State affixed thereto.

ALL writs issuing out of the Clerk's office in any of the Courts of law, shall be in the name of the State of New Hampshire; shall be under the seal of the Court whence they issue, and bear test of the chief, first, or senior Justice of the Court; but when such Justice shall be interested, then the writ shall bear test of some other Justice of the Court, to which the same shall be returnable, and be signed by the Clerk of such Court.

ALL indictments, presentments and informations shall conclude against the peace and dignity of the State.

THE estate of such persons as may destroy their own lives, shall not, for that offence be forfeited, but descend or ascend in the same manner, as if such persons had died in a natural way. Nor shall any article, which shall accidentally occasion the death of any person, be henceforth deemed a deodand, or in any wise forfeited on account of such misfortune.

ALL the laws which have heretofore been adopted, used and approved, in the Province, Colony, or State of New-Hampshire, and usually practised on in the Courts of law, shall still remain and be in full force, until altered and repealed by the Legislature; such parts thereof only excepted, as are repugnant to the rights and liberties contained in this Constitution.—Provided that nothing herein contained, when compared with the twenty third article in the bill of rights, shall be construed to effect the laws already made respecting the persons, or estates of absentees.

THE privilege and benefit of the Habeas Corpus, shall be enjoyed in this State, in the most free, easy, cheap, expeditious, and ample manner, and shall not be suspended by the Legislature, except upon

the most urgent and pressing occasions, and for a time not exceeding three months.

THE enacting stile in making and passing acts, statutes and laws, shall be—*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened.*

No Governor, or Judge of the Superior Court, shall hold any office or place, under the authority of this State, except such as by this Constitution they are admitted to hold, saving that the Judges of the said Court may hold the offices of Justice throughout the State; nor shall they hold any place or office, or receive any pension or salary, from any other State, Government or Power whatever.

No person shall be capable of exercising at the same time, more than one of the following offices within this State, viz. Judge of Probate, Sheriff, Register of deeds; and never more than two offices of profit which may be held by appointment of the Governor, or Governor and Council, or Senate and House of Representatives, or Superior or Inferior Courts; military offices and offices of Justices of the Peace excepted.

No person holding the office of Judge of the Superior Court, Secretary, Treasurer of the State, Judge of Probate, Attorney-General, Commissary-General, Judge of the Maritime Court, or Judge of the Court of Admiralty, military Officers receiving pay from the Continent or this State, excepting officers of the militia occasionally called forth on an emergency, Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, Register of deeds, President, Professor or Instructor of any College, Sheriff, or officer of the customs, including Naval Officers, shall at the same time have a seat in the Senate or House of Representatives, or Council; but their being chosen or appointed to, and accepting the same, shall operate as a resignation of their seat in the Senate, or House of Representatives or Council, and the place so vacated shall be filled up.

No person shall ever be admitted to hold a Seat in the Legislature, or any office of trust or importanee under this Government, who in the due course of law, has been convicted of bribery or corruption in obtaining an election or appointment.

IN all cases where sums of money are mentioned in this Constitution, the value thereof shall be computed in silver at *six shillings* and *eight pence* per ounce.

To the end that there may be no failure of justice or danger arise to this State from a change of the form of Government, all civil and military officers, holding commissions under the Government and People of New Hampshire, and other officers of the said Government and People, at the time this Constitution shall take effect, shall hold, exercise and enjoy all the powers and authorities to them granted and committed, until other persons shall be appointed in their stead. All Courts of law in the business of their respective departments, and the Executive and Legislative Bodies and Persons, shall continue in full force, enjoyment and exercise of all their trusts and employments, until the General Court and the Supreme and other Executive officers under this Constitution, are designated and invested with their respective trusts, powers and authority.

THIS form of Government shall be enrolled on parchment, and deposited in the Secretary's office, and be a part of the laws of the land, and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this State, in all future editions thereof.

To preserve an effectual adherence to the principles of the Constitution, and to correct any violations thereof, as well as to make such alterations therein, as from experience may be found necessary, the

General Court shall at the expiration of seven years from the time this Constitution shall take effect, issue precepts, or direct them to be issued from the Secretary's office, to the several Towns and incorporated Places, to elect delegates to meet in Convention for the purpose aforesaid: The said delegates to be chosen in the same manner and proportion'd as the Representatives to the General Assembly. Provided that no alteration shall be made in this Constitution before the same shall be laid before the Towns and unincorporated Places, and approved by two thirds of the qualified voters present, and voting upon the question.

GEORGE ATKINSON, President.
Attest, JOHN SULLIVAN, Secretary P. T.

IN CONVENTION, August 21, 1782.

RESOLVED, that this Convention be adjourned to the last Tuesday of December next, to meet at Concord; and that eight hundred copies of the Plan of Government, *which is agreed upon, to be printed, including such as shall be ordered to each member of the General-Court, and of the Convention, be sent to the selectmen of each town, and assessors of each plantation, under the direction of the Committee appointed for that purpose: And that the selectmen and assessors be requested as soon as may be, to lay the same before the inhabitants of their respective towns & plantations. And if any part of the inhabitants of said towns and plantations disapprove of any particular part of the same, that they be desired to state their objections distinctly and the reasons therefor. And the selectmen and assessors are desired to transmit the same to the Convention on the last Tuesday of December aforesaid, or to the Secretary of the Convention before then, in order for the revision and consideration of the Convention at the adjournment; with the number of voters in said towns and plantations meetings, on each side of the question: That the Convention may be able to collect the general sense of the people of this State on the several parts of the proposed Constitution: And if there should not appear to be two thirds of the people in favor thereof, that the Convention may alter it in such manner as may be most agreeable to the sentiments of two thirds of the voters throughout the State.*

GEORGE ATKINSON, President.
Attest, JOHN SULLIVAN, Secretary, P. T.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

Agreeably to adjournment, the Convention met in Concord, the last Tuesday in Dec^r, 1782; and found that the second Constitution was rejected. They then adjourned to meet in Concord the first Tuesday in June, 1783; when they met and agreed upon a third form for a Constitution, which, as before, was sent out to the people for their ratification or rejection. The Convention then adjourned to October 31st, 1783,(1)

(1) See N. H. Reg. 1852, p. 26. The whole time from the beginning of the first Convention, June 5, 1781, to the declaration of the Constitution, Oct. 31, 1783, was two years, four months, and twenty-six days,—with seven sessions. ED.

and met accordingly. On examination of the votes returned for and against the said *third* Constitution, they found it was *accepted* by the people.

In order to facilitate a comparison of the Constitution finally adopted with the first and second which were rejected; and to enable persons who have not other means of information on the subject, to trace the process and progress in the "task" of forming a Constitution which the people approved and accepted; the Editor, with advice, has judged it expedient to print the whole Constitution, with the Bill of Rights entire, as the closing matter of this Volume—venturing to submit his opinion, in the form of a Note, on the first and second articles of said Bill, touching the application of the principles therein to the subject of Slavery in New Hampshire.

A CONSTITUTION,

CONTAINING A BILL OF RIGHTS, AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT,

Agreed upon by the Delegates of the people of the State of New-Hampshire, in Convention, held at Concord, on the first Tuesday of June, 1783; submitted to, and approved of, by the people of said State; and established by their Delegates in Convention, October 31, 1783.

PART I.

The Bill of Rights.

ARTICLE I.

All men are born equally free and independent; therefore, all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good.

II. All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights; among which are—the enjoying and defending life and liberty—acquiring, possessing and protecting property—and in a word, of seeking and obtaining happiness.*

* The Editor respectfully submits the opinion, that the first and second Articles in this BILL OF RIGHTS virtually, and in effect, abolished slavery as it existed in New Hampshire. This is evident from the following considerations and facts:

(1) As preliminary, it should be understood that slavery was never *legalized* in New Hampshire, *i. e.* never established by authority of law; but as it existed in other Colonies, it gradually crept in and was tolerated and regulated from time to time, here; so that Indian and negro servants or slaves were owned and held as property.—Laws of N. H. 1771, pp. 52, 53, 101; Prov. Pap. Vol. IV. pp. 245, 301, 305, 497, 499.

(2) Whether the first and second articles in the Bill of Rights, were originally *designed* to abolish slavery, and were voted on and adopted by the people generally with that understanding, may be a question;

III. When men enter into a state of society, they surrender up some of their natural rights to that society, in order to in-

but that this was the effect of their adoption cannot be doubted, for the following reasons, viz.:

1. According to the census of New Hampshire taken in 1767. the number of "slaves" in the Province was 633; according to the census of 1775, the number of "negroes & slaves for life" was 657.—See Prov. Pap. N. H. Vol. VII. pp. 168–170 and 724–780; Comp. Coll. N. H. Hist. Soc. Vol. I. pp. 231–235. By the U. S. census, 1790, only six years after the adoption of the State Constitution, the number of "SLAVES" in New Hampshire was returned as 158; but by the census of 1800, only 8; of 1810, 0; of 1820, 0; in 1830, 3 were returned; in 1840, 1; since which, none has been returned. The proper explanation of these incompatible returns, the Editor conceives to be: That although by the State Constitution adopted in 1784, slavery was in fact terminated, and a very large proportion of those held as slaves availed themselves of their liberty, or were discharged; yet as a portion of them still remained in the families where they had lived, and perhaps did not desire a change; they were inadvertently reckoned by the census-takers, under the head of "Slaves"; no discrimination being made in regard to their condition, though in reality free. No other supposition can explain the inconsistency of the census returns at different periods: that is, 158 "slaves," in 1790; 8, in 1800; 0, in 1810 and 1820. We cannot suppose that in the first decade, 150 slaves died, or otherwise changed their condition, leaving only 8, in 1800; and that of these, not one was left in 1810 and 1820, and yet there were 3 in 1830, and 1 in 1840.

2. But a still higher proof that the Bill of Rights abolished slavery, is found in the fact that previous and up to the adoption of the constitution, slaves had been for many years rated and taxed to their owners as horses, oxen and other kinds of property were taxed. See this point fully confirmed in Prov. Papers N. H., Vol. IV. pp. 301, 305, 497; Vol. VI. p. 175; Vol. VII. p. 143: Vol. VIII. pp. 849 and 966. This practice of assessing and taxing slaves, it is conceded, extended even a few years beyond 1784. But the reason or explanation of this is wholly consistent with the fact which we allege as to its proper termination: the explanation is this: That previous to the adoption of the constitution, preliminary steps were taken, Feb. 21, 1783, for a new proportion and inventory of all ratable estate, for taxation: A committee was appointed to prepare and bring in a bill for that purpose; which however was not completed, reported and passed till the June session, 1784. That bill like former ones included a tax "on male and female negroes and mulatto servants from 16 to 45 years of age;" this act continued in force until a new proportion was made, Feb. 8, 1789. See Prov. Pap. N. H., Vol. VIII. p. 966; also MS. Acts 1780-1784, pp. 562-572, in Secretary's office, and printed Journals of the House, 1788-9, in library of the N. H. Hist. Soc.; during which period, some who remained in families as servants were taxed to their owners—at least it so appears from town rates, as paid in Portsmouth, Dover and other places.

3. But as conclusive and final proof on this subject, it appears that when a new proportion was proposed at the fall session, 1788, on the 30th December, "The House took under consideration the Act for establishing an equitable method of making taxes," &c. and "after considerable debate, Voted, That polls in the said proportion be estimated at ten shillings (*male and female servants expunged*) horses and oxen four years old and upwards, at three shillings," &c. This vote was concurred by the Senate, and when the Bill was finally passed,

sure the protection of others; and, without such an equivalent, the surrender is void.

IV. Among the natural rights, some are in their very nature unalienable, because no equivalent can be given or received for them. Of this kind are the RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE.

V. Every individual has a natural and unalienable right to worship GOD according to the dictates of his own conscience and reason; and no subject shall be hurt, molested, or restrained in his person, liberty or estate for worshipping GOD, in the manner and season most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience, or for his religious profession, sentiments or persuasion; provided he doth not disturb the public peace, or disturb others in their religious worship.

VI. As morality and piety, rightly grounded on evangelical principles, will give the best and greatest security to government, and will lay in the hearts of men the strongest obligations to due subjection; and as the knowledge of these, is most likely to be propagated through a society by the institution of the public worship of the DEITY, and of public instruction in morality and religion; therefore, to promote those important purposes, the people of this state have a right to impower, and do hereby fully impower the legislature to authorize from time to time, the several towns, parishes, bodies-corporate, or religious societies within this state, to make adequate provision at their own expence, for the support and maintenance of public Protestant teachers of piety, religion and morality:

Provided notwithstanding, That the several towns, parishes,

Feb. 8, 1789, and received the consent and signature of the governor, slaves ceased to be known and held as property in New Hampshire. No after legislation recognized the existence of slavery. The institution was dead.

In this conclusion, the Editor is happy to have the opinion of the Hon. CHARLES DOE, late judge in our Superior Court, who says, in a letter, Dec. 6, 1875: "It seems to me that a statement of the two facts that slaves were included in the Act of 1784, and were by an erasure of the MS. omitted in the Act of 1789—*intentionally* omitted—and the third fact, that they were taxed as property to their masters for several years under the Act of 1784, and probably every year until the Act of 1789; will throw more light on the *intention* of New Hampshire to abolish slavery, than anything else there is in print: That expunging of 'male and female servants' in the MS. of 1789, seems to me very significant as showing an *intention* to treat slavery as a dead institution."

4. With the above statements and facts, it is manifest, that Dr. Belknap was mistaken in the opinion which he seemed to favor, that the Bill of Rights had only the effect to give freedom to those who should be *born after the adoption of the constitution*. [See Belk. Hist. N. H., Vol. 3, pp. 211, 212. 1812.]

For facts in illustration and confirmation of the foregoing opinion, see Bouton's Hist. of Concord, pp. 250–254.

bodies-corporate, or religious societies, shall at all times have the exclusive right of electing their own public teachers, and of contracting with them for their support and maintenance. And no person of any one particular religious sect or denomination, shall ever be compelled to pay towards the support of the teacher or teachers of another persuasion, sect or denomination.

And every denomination of christians demeaning themselves quietly, and as good subjects of the state, shall be equally under the protection of the law: and no subordination of any one sect or denomination to another, shall ever be established by law.

And nothing herein shall be understood to affect any former contracts made for the support of the ministry; but all such contracts shall remain, and be in the same state as if this constitution had not been made.

VII. The people of this state, have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign, and independent state, and do, and forever hereafter shall, exercise and enjoy every power, jurisdiction and right pertaining thereto, which is not, or may not hereafter be by them expressly delegated to the United States of America in Congress assembled.

VIII. All power residing originally in, and being derived from the people, all the magistrates and officers of government, are their substitutes and agents, and at all times accountable to them.

IX. No office or place whatsoever in government, shall be hereditary—the abilities and integrity requisite in all, not being transmissible to posterity or relations.

X. Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family or class of men; therefore, whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought, to reform the old, or establish a new government. The doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power, and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

XI. All elections ought to be free, and every inhabitant of the state having the proper qualifications, has equal right to elect, and be elected into office.

XII. Every member of the community has a right to be protected by it in the enjoyment of his life, liberty and property; he is therefore bound to contribute his share in the expence of such protection, and to yield his personal service when necessary, or an equivalent. But no part of a man's property shall be taken from him, or applied to public uses, without his own

consent, or that of the representative body of the people. Nor are the inhabitants of this state controllable by any other laws than those to which they or their representative body have given their consent.

XIII. No person who is conscientiously scrupulous about the lawfulness of bearing arms, shall be compelled thereto, provided he will pay an equivalent.

XIV. Every subject of this state is entitled to a certain remedy, by having recourse to the laws, for all injuries he may receive in his person, property or character, to obtain right and justice freely, without being obliged to purchase it; completely, and without any denial; promptly, and without delay, conformably to the laws.

XV. No subject shall be held to answer for any crime, or offence, until the same is fully and plainly, substantially and formally, described to him; or be compelled to accuse or furnish evidence against himself. And every subject shall have a right to produce all proofs that may be favorable to himself; to meet the witnesses against him face to face, and to be fully heard in his defence by himself, and counsel. And no subject shall be arrested, imprisoned, despoiled, or deprived of his property, immunities, or privileges, put out of the protection of the law, exiled or deprived of his life, liberty, or estate, but by the judgment of his peers or the law of the land.

XVI. No subject shall be liable to be tried, after an acquittal, for the same crime or offence.--Nor shall the legislature make any law that shall subject any person to a capital punishment, excepting for the government of the army and navy, and the militia in actual service, without trial by jury.

XVII. In criminal prosecutions, the trial of facts in the vicinity where they happen, is so essential to the security of the life, liberty and estate of the citizen, that no crime or offence ought to be tried in any other county than that in which it is committed; except in cases of general insurrection in any particular county, when it shall appear to the Judges of the Superior Court, that an impartial trial cannot be had in the county where the offence may be committed, and upon their report the assembly shall think proper to direct the trial in the nearest county in which an impartial trial can be obtained.

XVIII. All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offence. No wise legislature will affix the same punishment to the crimes of theft, forgery and the like, which they do to those of murder and treason; where the same undistinguishing severity is exerted against all offences, the people are led to forget the real distinction in the crimes themselves, and to commit the most flagrant with as little compunction as they do those of the lightest dye: For the same reason a multitude

of sanguinary laws is both impolitic and unjust. The true design of all punishments being to reform, not to exterminate, mankind.

XIX. Every subject hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his houses, his papers, and all his possessions. All warrants, therefore, are contrary to this right, if the cause or foundation of them be not previously supported by oath. or affirmation; and if the order in the warrant to a civil officer, to make search in suspected places, or to arrest one or more suspected persons, or to seize their property, be not accompanied with a special designation of the persons or objects of search, arrest, or seizure; and no warrant ought to be issued but in cases, and with the formalities prescribed by the laws.

XX. In all controversies concerning property, and in all suits between two or more persons, except in cases in which it has been heretofore otherwise used and practised, the parties have a right to a trial by jury; and this method of procedure shall be held sacred, unless in causes arising on the high seas, and such as relate to mariners wages, the legislature shall think it necessary hereafter to alter it.

XXI. In order to reap the fullest advantage of the inestimable privilege of the trial by jury, great care ought to be taken that none but qualified persons should be appointed to serve; and such ought to be fully compensated for their travel, time and attendance.

XXII. The Liberty of the Press is essential to the security of freedom in a state; it ought, therefore, to be inviolably preserved.

XXIII. Retrospective laws are highly injurious, oppressive and unjust. No such laws, therefore, should be made, either for the decision of civil causes, or the punishment of offences.

XXIV. A well regulated militia is the proper, natural, and sure defence of a state.

XXV. Standing armies are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be raised or kept up without the consent of the legislature.

XXVI. In all cases, and at all times, the military ought to he under strict subordination to, and governed by the civil power.

XXVII. No soldier in time of peace, shall be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; and in time of war, such quarters ought not to be made but by the civil magistrate, in a manner ordained by the legislature.

XXVIII. No subsidy, charge, tax, impost or duty shall be established, fixed, laid or levied, under any pretext whatsoever, without the consent of the people or their representatives in the legislature, or authority derived from that body.

XXIX. The power of suspending the laws, or the execution of them, ought never to be exercised but by the legislature, or by authority derived therefrom, to be exercised in such particular cases only as the legislature shall expressly provide for.

XXX. The freedom of deliberation, speech, and debate, in either house of the legislature, is so essential to the rights of the people, that it cannot be the foundation of any action, complaint, or prosecution, in any other court or place whatsoever.

XXXI. The legislature ought frequently to assemble for the redress of grievances, for correcting, strengthening, and confirming the laws, and for making new ones, as the common good may require.

XXXII. The people have a right in an orderly and peaceable manner, to assemble and consult upon the common good, give instructions to their representatives; and to request of the legislative body, by way of petition or remonstrance, redress of the wrongs done them, and of the grievances they suffer.

XXXIII. No magistrate or court of law shall demand excessive bail or sureties, impose excessive fines, or inflict cruel or unusual punishments.

XXXIV. No person can in any case be subjected to law martial, or to any pains, or penalties, by virtue of that law, except those employed in the army or navy, and except the militia in actual service, but by authority of the legislature.

XXXV. It is essential to the preservation of the rights of every individual, his life, liberty, property and character, that there be an impartial interpretation of the laws, and administration of justice. It is the right of every citizen to be tried by judges as impartial as the lot of humanity will admit. It is therefore not only the best policy, but for the security of the rights of the people, that the judges of the supreme (or superior) judicial court should hold their offices so long as they behave well; and that they should have honorable salaries, ascertained and established by standing laws.

XXXVI. Economy being a most essential virtue in all states, especially in a young one; no pension shall be granted, but in consideration of actual services, and such pensions ought to be granted with great caution, by the legislature, and never for more than one year at a time.

XXXVII. In the government of this state, the three essential powers thereof, to wit, the legislative, executive and judicial, ought to be kept as separate from and independent of each other, as the nature of a free government will admit, or as is consistent with that chain of connection that binds the whole fabric of the constitution in one indissoluble bond of union and amity.

XXXVIII. A frequent recurrence to the fundamental prin-

ciples of the Constitution, and a constant adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, frugality, and all the social virtues, are indispensably necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty and good government; the people ought, therefore, to have a peculiar regard to all those principles in the choice of their officers and representatives: and they have a right to require of their law-givers and magistrates, an exact and constant observance of them in the formation and execution of the laws necessary for the good administration of government.

PART II.

THE FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

THE people inhabiting the territory formerly called the Province of New-Hampshire, do hereby solemnly and mutually agree with each other, to form themselves into a free, sovereign, and independent Body-politic, or State, by the name of the STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

THE GENERAL COURT.

THE supreme legislative power within this state shall be vested in the senate and house of representatives, each of which shall have a negative on the other.

THE senate and house shall assemble every year on the first Wednesday of June, and at such other times as they may judge necessary; and shall dissolve, and be dissolved, seven days next preceding the said first Wednesday of June; and shall be stiled THE GENERAL COURT OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

THE general court shall forever have full power and authority to erect and constitute judicatories and courts of record, or other courts, to be holden in the name of the state, for the hearing, trying, and determining all manner of crimes, offences, pleas, processes, plaints, actions, causes, matters and things whatsoever, arising or happening within this state, or between or concerning persons inhabiting or residing, or brought within the same, whether the same be criminal or civil, or whether the crimes be capital or not capital, and whether the said pleas be real, personal, or mixed; and for the awarding and issuing execution thereon. To which courts and judicatories are hereby given and granted full power and authority, from time to time to administer oaths or affirmations, for the better discovery of truth in any matter in controversy, or depending before them.

AND farther, full power and authority are hereby given and granted to the said general court, from time to time, to make, ordain and establish, all manner of wholesome and reasonable

orders, laws, statutes, ordinances, directions and instructions, either with penalties or without; so as the same be not repugnant, or contrary to this constitution, as they may judge for the benefit and welfare of this state, and for the governing and ordering thereof, and of the subjects of the same, for the necessary support and defence of the government thereof; and to name and settle annually, or provide by fixed laws, for the naming and settling all civil officers within this state; such officers excepted, the election and appointment of whom are hereafter in this form of government otherwise provided for; and to set forth the several duties, powers and limits of the several civil and military officers of this state, and the forms of such oaths or affirmations, as shall be respectively administered unto them for the execution of their several offices and places, so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this constitution; and also to impose fines, mulcts, imprisonments, and other punishments; and to impose and levy proportional and reasonable assessments, rates and taxes, upon all the inhabitants of, and residents within the said state; and upon all estates within the same; to be issued and disposed of by warrant under the hand of the president of this state for the time being, with the advice and consent of the council, for the public service, in the necessary defence and support of the government of this state, and the protection and preservation of the subjects thereof, according to such acts as are, or shall be in force within the same.

And while the public charges of government or any part thereof, shall be assessed on polls and estates in the manner that has heretofore been practised; in order that such assessments may be made with equality, there shall be a valuation of the estates within the state taken anew once in every five years at least, and as much oftener as the general court shall order.

SENATE.

There shall be annually elected by the freeholders and other inhabitants of this state, qualified as in this constitution is provided, twelve persons to be senators for the year ensuing their election; to be chosen in and by the inhabitants of the districts, into which this state may from time to time be divided by the general court, for that purpose: and the general court in assigning the number to be elected by the respective districts, shall govern themselves by the proportion of public taxes paid by the said districts; and timely make known to the inhabitants of the state, the limits of each district, and the number of senators to be elected therein; provided the number of such districts shall never be more than ten, nor less than five.

And the several counties in this state, shall, until the gen

eral court shall order otherwise, be districts for the election of senators, and shall elect the following number, viz.

ROCKINGHAM, five. STRAFFORD, two. HILLSBOROUGH, two. CHESHIRE, two. GRAFTON, one.

THE senate shall be the first branch of the legislature: and the senators shall be chosen in the following manner, viz. Every male inhabitant of each town and parish with town privileges in the several counties in this state, of twenty-one years of age and upwards, paying for himself a poll tax, shall have a right at the annual or other meetings of the inhabitants of said towns and parishes, to be duly warned and holden annually forever in the month of March; to vote in the town or parish wherein he dwells, for the senators in the county or district whereof he is a member.

AND every person qualified as the constitution provides, shall be considered an inhabitant for the purpose of electing and being elected into any office or place within this state, in that town, parish and plantation where he dwelleth and hath his home.

THE selectmen of the several towns and parishes aforesaid, shall, during the choice of senators, preside at such meetings impartially, and shall receive the votes of all the inhabitants of such towns and parishes present and qualified to vote for senators, and shall sort and count the same in the meeting, and in presence of the town clerk, who shall make a fair record in presence of the selectmen, and in open meeting, of the name of every person voted for, and the number of votes against his name; and a fair copy of this record shall be attested by the selectmen and town-clerk, and shall be sealed up and directed to the secretary of the state, with a superscription expressing the purport thereof, and delivered by said clerk to the sheriff of the county in which such town or parish lies, thirty days at least, before the first Wednesday of June; and the sheriff of each county, or his deputy, shall deliver all such certificates by him received, into the secretary's office, seventeen days at least, before the first Wednesday of June.

AND the inhabitants of plantations and places unincorporated, qualified as this constitution provides, who are or shall be required to assess taxes upon themselves towards the support of government, or shall be taxed therefor, shall have the same privilege of voting for senators in the plantations and places wherein they reside, as the inhabitants of the respective towns and parishes aforesaid have. And the meetings of such plantations and places for that purpose, shall be holden annually in the month of March, at such places respectively therein, as the assessors thereof shall direct; which assessors shall have like authority for notifying the electors, collecting and returning the

votes, as the selectmen and town-clerks have in their several towns by this constitution.

And, that there may be a due meeting of senators, on the first Wednesday of June, annually, the president and three of the council for the time being, shall as soon as may, examine the returned copies of such records; and fourteen days before the said first Wednesday of June, he shall issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen senators by a majority of votes, to attend and take their seats on that day: *Provided, nevertheless*, that for the first year the said returned copies shall be examined by the president and five of the council of the former constitution of government; and the said president shall in like manner notify the persons elected, to attend and take their seats accordingly.

The senate shall be final judges of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members, as pointed out in this constitution, and shall on the said first Wednesday of June annually, determine and declare, who are elected by each district to be senators by a majority of votes: and in case there shall not appear to be the full number returned elected by a majority of votes for any district, the deficiency shall be supplied in the following manner, viz. The members of the house of representatives and such senators as shall be declared elected, shall take the names of such persons as shall be found to have the highest number of votes in each district, and not elected, amounting to twice the number of senators wanting, if there be so many voted for; and out of these shall elect by joint ballot the number of senators wanted for such district: and in this manner all such vacancies shall be filled up in every district of the state, and in like manner all vacancies in the senate, arising by death, removal out of the state, or otherwise, shall be supplied as soon as may be after such vacancies happen.

Provided nevertheless, That no person shall be capable of being elected a senator, who is not of the protestant religion, and seized of a freehold estate in his own right of the value of *two hundred pounds*, lying within this state, who is not of the age of thirty years, and who shall not have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years immediately preceding his election; and at the time thereof he shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen.

The senate shall have power to adjourn themselves, provided such adjournment do not exceed two days at a time.

The senate shall appoint their own officers, and determine their own rules of proceedings. And not less than seven members of the senate shall make a quorum for doing business; and when less than eight senators shall be present, the assent of five at least shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

The senate shall be a court with full power and authority to hear and determine all impeachments made by the house of representatives, against any officer or officers of the state, for misconduct or mal-administration in their offices. But previous to the trial of any such impeachment, the members of the senate shall respectively be sworn, truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question according to evidence. Their judgment, however, shall not extend farther than removal from office, disqualification to hold or enjoy any place of honor, trust or profit under this state; but the party so convicted, shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to laws of the land.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THERE shall be in the legislature of this state a representation of the people annually elected and founded upon principles of equality: and in order that such representation may be as equal as circumstances will admit, every town, parish, or place intitled to town privileges, having one hundred and fifty rateable male polls, of twenty-one years of age, and upwards, may elect one representative; if four hundred and fifty rateable polls, may elect two representatives; and so proceeding in that proportion, making three hundred such rateable polls the mean increasing number, for every additional representative.

Such towns, parishes or places as have less than one hundred and fifty rateable polls shall be classed by the general-assembly for the purpose of chusing a representative, and seasonably notified thereof. And in every class formed for the above-mentioned purpose, the first annual meeting shall be held in the town, parish, or place wherein most of the rateable polls reside; and afterwards in that which has the next highest number, and so on annually by rotation, through the several towns, parishes or places, forming the district.

WHENEVER any town, parish, or place intitled to town privileges as aforesaid, shall not have one hundred and fifty rateable polls, and be so situated as to render the classing thereof with any other town, parish, or place very inconvenient, the general-assembly may upon application of a majority of the voters in such town, parish, or place, issue a writ for their electing and sending a representative to the general-court.

THE members of the house of representatives shall be chosen annually in the month of March, and shall be the second branch of the legislature.

ALL persons qualified to vote in the election of senators shall be intitled to vote within the town, district, parish, or place where they dwell, in the choice of representatives. Every

member of the house of representatives shall be chosen by ballot; and for two years at least next preceding his election, shall have been an inhabitant of this state, shall have an estate within the town, parish, or place which he may be chosen to represent, of the value of *one hundred pounds*, one half of which to be a freehold, whereof he is seized in his own right; shall be at the time of his election, an inhabitant of the town, parish, or place he may be chosen to represent; shall be of the protestant religion, and shall cease to represent such town, parish, or place immediately on his ceasing to be qualified as aforesaid.

THE travel of each representative to the general-assembly, and returning home, once in every session, and no more, shall be at the expence of the state, and the wages for his attendance, at the expence of the town, parish, or places he represents; such members attending seasonably, and not departing without licence. All intermediate vacancies in the house of representatives, may be filled up from time to time, in the same manner as annual elections are made.

THE house of representatives shall be the grand inquest of the state, and all impeachments made by them, shall be heard and tried by the senate.

ALL money bills shall originate in the house of representatives, but the senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

THE house of representatives shall have power to adjourn themselves, but no longer then two days at a time.

A majority of the members of the house of representatives shall be a quorum for doing business: but when less than two thirds of the representatives elected shall be present, the assent of two thirds of those members shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

No member of the house of representatives or senate, shall be arrested or held to bail on mean process, during his going to, returning from, or attendance upon the court.

THE house of representatives shall choose their own speaker, appoint their own officers, and settle the rules of proceedings in their own house. They shall have authority to punish by imprisonment, every person who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house in its presence, by any disorderly and contemptuous behaviour, or by threatening, or ill treating any of its members; or by obstructing its deliberations; every person guilty of a breach of its privileges in making arrests for debt, or by assaulting any member during his attendance at any session; in assaulting or disturbing any one of its officers in the execution of any order or procedure of the house, in assaulting any witness, or other person, ordered to attend by and dur-

ing his attendance of the house, or in rescuing any person arrested by order of the house, knowing them to be such. The senate, president and council, shall have the same powers in like cases; provided that no imprisonment by either, for any offence, exceed ten days.

THE journals of the proceedings of both houses of the general-court, shall be printed and published, immediately after every adjournment, or prorogation; and upon motion made by any one member, the yeas and nays upon any question, shall be taken and entered in the journals.

EXECUTIVE POWER.

PRESIDENT.

THERE shall be a supreme executive magistrate, who shall be stiled, THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE; and whose title shall be HIS EXCELLENCY.

THE PRESIDENT shall be chosen annually; and no person shall be eligible to this office, unless at the time of his election, he shall have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of thirty years; and unless he shall, at the same time, have an estate of the value of *five hundred pounds*, one half of which shall consist of a freehold, in his own right, within the state; and unless he shall be of the protestant religion.

THOSE persons qualified to vote for senators and representatives, shall within the several towns, parishes or places, where they dwell, at a meeting to be called for that purpose, some day in the month of March annually, give in their votes for a president to the selectmen, who shall preside at such meeting, and the clerk in the presence and with the assistance of the selectmen, shall in open meeting sort and count the votes, and form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name, and shall make a fair record of the same in the town books, and a public declaration thereof in the said meeting; and shall in the presence of said inhabitants, seal up a copy of said list attested by him and the selectmen, and transmit the same to the sheriff of the county, thirty days at least before the first Wednesday of June, or shall cause returns of the same to be made to the office of the secretary of the state, seventeen days at least, before said day, who shall lay the same before the senate and house of representatives on the first Wednesday of June, to be by them examined: and in case of an election by a majority of votes through the state, the choice shall be by them declared, and published; but if no person shall have a majority of votes, the house of representa-

tives shall by ballot elect two out of the four persons who had the highest number of votes, if so many shall have been voted for; but if otherwise, out of the number voted for; and make return to the senate of the two persons so elected, on which the senate shall proceed by ballot to elect one of them who shall be declared president.

THE president of the state shall preside in the senate, shall have a vote equal with any other member; and shall also have a casting vote in case of a tie.

THE president with advice of council, shall have full power and authority in the recess of the general court, to prorogue the same from time to time, not exceeding ninety days in any one recess of said court; and during the session of said court, to adjourn or prorogue it to any time the two houses may desire, and to call it together sooner than the time to which it may be adjourned or prorogued, if the welfare of the state should require the same.

IN cases of disagreement between the two houses, with regard to the time of adjournment, or prorogation, the president, with advice of council, shall have a right to adjourn or prorogue the general court, not exceeding ninety days, at any one time, as he may determine the public good may require. And he shall dissolve the same seven days before the said first Wednesday of June. And in case of any infectious distemper prevailing in the place where the said court at any time is to convene, or any other cause whereby dangers may arise to the healths or lives of the members from their attendance, the president may direct the session to be holden at some other the most convenient place within the state.

THE president of this state for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the army and navy, and all the military forces of the state, by sea and land; and shall have full power by himself, or by any chief commander, or other officer, or officers, from time to time, to train, instruct, exercise and govern the militia and navy; and for the special defence and safety of this state to assemble in martial array, and put in warlike posture, the inhabitants thereof, and to lead and conduct them, and with them to encounter, expulse, repel, resist and pursue by force of arms, as well by sea as by land, within and without the limits of this state; and also to kill, slay, destroy, if necessary, and conquer by all fitting ways, enterprize and means, all and every such person and persons as shall, at any time hereafter, in a hostile manner, attempt or enterprize the destruction, invasion, detriment, or annoyance of this state; and to use and exercise over the army and navy, and over the militia in actual service, the law-martial in time of war, invasion, and also in rebellion, declared by the legislature to exist, as occasion shall

necessarily require: and surprize by all ways and means whatsoever, all and every such person or persons, with their ships, arms, ammunition, and other goods, as shall in a hostile manner invade, or attempt the invading, conquering, or annoying this state: and in fine, the president hereby is entrusted with all other powers incident to the office of captain-general and commander in chief, and admiral, to be exercised agreeably to the rules and regulations of the constitution and the laws of the land: provided that the president shall not at any time hereafter, by virtue of any power by this constitution granted, or hereafter to be granted to him by the legislature, transport any of the inhabitants of this state, or oblige them to march out of the limits of the same, without their free and voluntary consent, or the consent of the general court, nor grant commissions for exercising the law-martial in any case, without the advice and consent of the council.

THE power of pardoning offences, except such as persons may be convicted of before the senate by impeachment of the house, shall be in the president by and with the advice of the council: but no charter of pardon granted by the president with advice of council, before conviction, shall avail the party pleading the same, notwithstanding any general or particular expressions contained therein, descriptive of the offence or offences intended to be pardoned.

ALL judicial officers, the attorney-general, solicitor-general, all sheriffs, coroners, registers of probate, and all officers of the navy, and general and field-officers of the militia, shall be nominated and appointed by the president and council; and every such nomination shall be made at least seven days prior to such appointment, and no appointment shall take place unless three of the council agree thereto. The captains and subalterns in the respective regiments shall be nominated and recommended by the field-officers to the president, who is to issue their commissions immediately on receipt of such recommendation.

No officer duly commissioned to command in the militia, shall be removed from his office, but by the address of both houses to the president, or by fair trial in court-martial, pursuant to the laws of the state for the time being.

THE commanding officers of the regiments shall appoint their adjutants and quarter-masters; the brigadiers their brigade-majors, the major-generals their aids; the captains and subalterns their non-commissioned officers.

THE president and council, shall appoint all officers of the continental army, whom by the confederation of the United States it is provided that this state shall appoint, as also all officers of forts and garrisons.

THE division of the militia into brigades, regiments and

companies, made in pursuance of the militia laws now in force, shall be considered as the proper division of the militia of this state, until the same shall be altered by some future law.

No monies shall be issued out of the treasury of this state, and disposed of (except such sums as may be appropriated for the redemption of bills of credit or treasurer's notes, or for the payment of interest arising thereon) but by warrant under the hand of the president for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the council, for the necessary support and defence of this state, and for the necessary protection and preservation of the inhabitants thereof, agreeably to the acts and resolves of the general court.

All public boards, the commissary-general, all superintending officers of public magazines and stores, belonging to this state, and all commanding officers of forts and garrisons within the same, shall once in every three months, officially, and without requisition, and at other times, when required by the president, deliver to him an account of all goods, stores, provisions, ammunition, cannon, with their appendages, and small arms, with their accoutrements, and of all other public property under their care respectively; distinguishing the quantity, and kind of each, as particularly as may be; together with the condition of such forts and garrisons: and the commanding officer shall exhibit to the president, when required by him, true and exact plans of such forts, and of the land and sea, or harbour or harbours adjacent.

The President and council shall be compensated for their services from time to time by such grants as the general court shall think reasonable.

Permanent and honorable salaries shall be established by law for the justices of the superior court.

Whenever the chair of the president shall be vacant, by reason of his death, absence from the state, or otherwise, the senior senator for the time being, shall, during such vacancy, have and exercise all the powers and authorities which by this constitution the president is vested with when personally present.

COUNCIL.

Annually, on the first meeting of the general court, two members of the senate and three from the house of representatives, shall be chosen by joint ballot of both houses as a council, for advising the president in the executive part of government, whom the president for the time being, shall have full power and authority to convene from time to time, at his discretion, and the president with the counsellors, or three of them at least, shall and may from time to time hold and keep

a council, for ordering and directing the affairs of the state according to the laws of the land.

THE qualifications for counsellors, shall be the same as those required for senators. The members of the council shall not intermeddle with the making or trying impeachments, but shall themselves be impeachable by the house, and triable by the senate for mal-conduct.

THE resolutions and advice of the council shall be recorded in a register, and signed by the members present, and this record may be called for at any time, by either house of the legislature, and any member of the council may enter his opinion contrary to the resolution of the majority.

AND whereas the elections appointed to be made by this constitution on the first Wednesday of June annually, by the two houses of the legislature may not be completed on that day, the said elections may be adjourned from day to day until the same shall be completed. And the order of the elections shall be as follows: the vacancies in the senate, if any, shall be first filled up; the president shall then be elected, provided there should be no choice of him by the people: and afterwards the two houses, shall proceed to the election of the council.

SECRETARY, TREASURER, COMMISSARY-GENERAL, &C.

THE Secretary, treasurer, and commissary-general, shall be chosen by joint ballot of the senators and representatives assembled in one room.

THE records of the state shall be kept in the office of the secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be answerable, and he shall attend the president and council, the senate and representatives, in person or by deputy, as they may require.

COUNTY-TREASURER, &C.

THE County-treasurers, and registers of deeds shall be elected by the inhabitants of the several towns, in the several counties in the state, according to the method now practised, and the present laws of the state: and before they enter upon the business of their offices, shall be respectively sworn faithfully to discharge the duties thereof, and shall severally give bond with sufficient sureties, in a reasonable sum for the use of the county, for the punctual performance of their respective trusts.

JUDICIARY POWER.

THE tenure, that all commission officers shall have by law in their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commissions. All judicial officers, duly appointed, commissioned

and sworn, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, excepting those concerning whom there is a different provision made in this constitution: *Provided nevertheless*, the president, with consent of council, may remove them upon the address of both houses of the legislature.

EACH branch of the legislature, as well as the president and council, shall have authority to require the opinions of the justices of the superior court upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions.

IN order that the people may not suffer from the long continuance in place of any justice of the peace, who shall fail in discharging the important duties of his office with ability and fidelity, all commissions of justices of the peace shall become void, at the expiration of five years from their respective dates; and upon the expiration of any commission, the same may, if necessary, be renewed, or another person appointed, as shall most conduce to the well-being of the state.

THE judges of probate of wills, and for granting letters of administration, shall hold their courts at such place or places, on such fixed days, as the convenience of the people may require. And the legislature shall, from time to time, hereafter appoint such times and places, until which appointments, the said courts shall be holden at the times and places which the respective judges shall direct.

ALL causes of marriage, divorce and alimony, and all appeals from the respective judges of probate, shall be heard and tried by the superior court, until the legislature shall, by law make other provision.

CLERKS OF COURTS.

THE clerks of the superior court of judicature, inferior court of common pleas, and general sessions of the peace, shall be appointed by the respective courts during pleasure. And to prevent any fraud or unfairness in the entries and records of said courts, no such clerk shall be of counsel in any cause in the court of which he is clerk, nor shall he fill any writ in any civil action whatsoever.

DELEGATES TO CONGRESS.

THE delegates of this state to the Congress of the United States, shall some time between the first Wednesday of June, and the first Wednesday of September annually, be elected by the senate and house of representatives in their seperate branches; to serve in Congress for one year, to commence on the first Monday in November then next ensuing. They shall have commissions under the hand of the president, and the great seal of the state; but may be recalled at any time within

the year, and others chosen and commissioned, in the same manner, in their stead; and they shall have the same qualifications, in all respects, as by this constitution are required for the president.

No person shall be capable of being a delegate to Congress, for more than three years in any term of six years; nor shall any person being a delegate, be capable of holding any office under the United States, for which he, or any other for his benefit, receives any salary, or emolument of any kind.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF LITERATURE, &C.

KNOWLEDGE, and learning, generally diffused through a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government; and spreading the opportunities and advantages of education through the various parts of the country, being highly conducive to promote this end; it shall be the duty of the legislators and the magistrates, in all future periods of this government to cherish the interest of literature and the sciences, and all seminaries and public schools, to encourage private and public institutions, rewards and immunities for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trades, manufactures and natural history of the country; to countenance and inculcate the principles of humanity and general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and economy, honesty and punctuality, sincerity, sobriety, and all social affections, and generous sentiments, among the people.

OATH AND SUBSCRIPTIONS; EXCLUSION FROM OFFICES; COMMISSIONS; WRITS; CONFIRMATION OF LAWS; HABEAS CORPUS; THE ENACTING STILE; CONTINUANCE OF OFFICERS; PROVISION FOR A FUTURE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION, &C.

ANY person chosen president, counsellor, senator, or representative, military or civil officer, (town officers excepted,) accepting the trust, shall, before he proceeds to execute the duties of his office, make and subscribe the following declaration, viz.

I, A. B. *do truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify and declare, that the state of New-Hampshire is, and of right ought to be, a free, sovereign and independent state; and do swear that I will bear faith, and true allegiance to the same, and that I will endeavor to defend it against all treacherous conspiracies and hostile attempts whatever: and I do further testify and declare, that no man or body of men, hath or can have, a right to absolve me from the obligation of this oath, declaration or affirmation; and that I do make this acknowledgement, profession, testimony,*

and declaration, honestly and truly, according to the common acceptation of the foregoing words, without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation whatever.

So help me GOD.

I, A. B. *do solemnly and sincerely swear and affirm, that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as*
according to the best of my abilities, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this constitution, and the laws of the state of New-Hampshire.

So help me GOD.

Provided always, When any person chosen or appointed as aforesaid, shall be of the denomination called quakers, or shall be scrupulous of swearing, and shall decline taking the said oaths, such shall take and subscribe them omitting the word "*swear*," and likewise the words "*So help me God*," subjoined instead thereof, *This I do under the pains and penalties of perjury*.

And the oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the president before the senior senator present, in the presence of the two houses of assembly; and by the senate and representatives first elected under this constitution, before the president and council for the time being; and by the residue of the officers aforesaid, before such persons, and in such manner as from time to time shall be prescribed by the legislature.

All commissions shall be in the name of the state of New-Hampshire, signed by the president, and attested by the secretary, or his deputy, and shall have the great seal of the state affixed thereto.

All writs issuing out of the clerk's office in any of the courts of law, shall be in the name of the state of New-Hampshire; shall be under the seal of the court whence they issue, and bear test of the chief, first, or senior justice of the court; but when such justice shall be interested, then the writ shall bear test of some other justice of the court, to which the same shall be returnable; and be signed by the clerk of such court.

All indictments, presentments and informations shall conclude against the peace and dignity of the state.

The estates of such persons as may destroy their own lives, shall not for that offence be forfeited, but descend or ascend in the same manner, as if such persons had died in the natural way. Nor shall any article which shall accidentally occasion the death of any person, be henceforth deemed a deodand, or in any wise forfeited on account of such misfortune.

All the laws which have heretofore been adopted, used and approved, in the province, colony, or state of New-Hampshire, and usually practised on in the courts of law, shall remain and

be in full force, until altered and repealed by the legislature; such parts thereof only excepted, as are repugnant to the rights and liberties contained in this constitution: Provided that nothing herein contained, when compared with the twenty-third article in the bill of rights, shall be construed to affect the laws already made respecting the persons or estates of absentees.

THE privilege and benefit of the habeas corpus, shall be enjoyed in this state, in the most free, easy, cheap, expeditious, and ample manner, and shall not be suspended by the legislature, except upon the most urgent and pressing occasions, and for a time not exceeding three months.

THE enacting stile in making and passing acts, statutes and laws, shall be—*Be it enacted by the Senate and house of representatives, in General Court convened.*

No president or judge of the superior court, shall hold any office or place under the authority of this state, except such as by this constitution they are admitted to hold, saving that the judges of the said court may hold the offices of justices of the peace throughout the state; nor shall they hold any place or office, or receive any pension or salary, from any other state, government, or power whatever.

No person shall be capable of exercising at the same time, more than one of the following offices within this state, viz. Judge of probate, sheriff, register of deeds; and never more than two offices of profit, which may be held by appointment of the president, or president and council, or senate and house of representatives, or superior or inferior courts; military offices, and offices of justices of the peace, excepted.

No person holding the office of judge of the superior court, secretary, treasurer of the state, judge of probate, attorney-general, commissary-general, judge of the maritime court, or judge of the court of admiralty, military officers receiving pay from the continent or this state, excepting officers of the militia occasionally called forth on an emergency; judge of the inferior court of common pleas, register of deeds, president, professor or instructor of any college, sheriff, or office of the customs, including naval-officers, shall at the same time have a seat in the senate or house of representatives, or council; but their being chosen or appointed to, and accepting the same, shall operate as a resignation of their seat in the senate, or house of representatives, or council; and the place so vacated shall be filled up.

No person shall ever be admitted to hold a seat in the legislature, or any office of trust or importance under this government, who in the due course of law, has been convicted of bribery or corruption, in obtaining an election or appointment.

IN all cases where sums of money are mentioned in this con-

stitution, the value thereof shall be computed in silver, at *six shillings and eight pence* per ounce.

To the end that there may be no failure of justice or danger arise to this state from a change of the form of government, all civil and military officers, holding commissions under the government and people of New-Hampshire, and other officers of the said government and people, at the time this constitution shall take effect, shall hold, exercise and enjoy all the powers and authorities to them granted and committed, until other persons shall be appointed in their stead. All courts of law in the business of their respective departments, and the executive, and legislative bodies and persons, shall continue in full force, enjoyment and exercise of all their trusts and employments, until the general court, and the supreme and other executive officers under this constitution, are designated, and invested with their respective trusts, powers and authority.

This form of government shall be enrolled on parchment, and deposited in the secretary's office, and be a part of the laws of the land, and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this state, in all future editions thereof.

To preserve an effectual adherence to the principles of the constitution, and to correct any violations thereof, as well as to make such alterations therein, as from experience may be found necessary, the general court shall at the expiration of seven years from the time this constitution shall take effect, issue precepts, or direct them to be issued from the secretary's office, to the several towns and incorporated places, to elect delegates to meet in convention for the purposes aforesaid: the said delegates to be chosen in the same manner, and proportioned as the representatives to the general assembly; provided that no alteration shall be made in this constitution before the same shall be laid before the towns and unincorporated places, and approved by two thirds of the qualified voters present, and voting upon the question.

IN CONVENTION,

HELD AT CONCORD, THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER, 1783.

The Returns from the several towns being examined, and it appearing that the foregoing Bill of Rights and Form of Government, were approved by the People; the same are hereby agreed on and established by the Delegates of the People, and declared to be the Civil Constitution for the State of New-Hampshire, to take place on the first Wed-

nesday of June, 1784; and that in the mean time the General Court under the present government, make all the necessary arrangements for introducing this Constitution, at that time, and in the manner therein described.

NATHANIEL FOLSOM, President, P. T.

Attest.

J. M. SEWALL, Secretary.

INDEX OF NAMES.

Readers will please take notice, that in this Index, names which very frequently occur in the same town, are not always noted page by page, but designated by a – joining the pages on which they are found. Hence, when the residence of a particular name is once ascertained, it may be well to look for its repetition on every page of the town thereto related. It will be seen that the same name is often spelt in different ways. The names of Governors, Clerks, Secretaries, &c., which are officially signed, occurring more or less on every page, are not repeated. Errors will probably be found, but the Index has cost the Editor immense labor, to make it accurate.

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(1) By error, "Rickers."

(2) The name, as Governors, appears on almost every page. ED.

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